

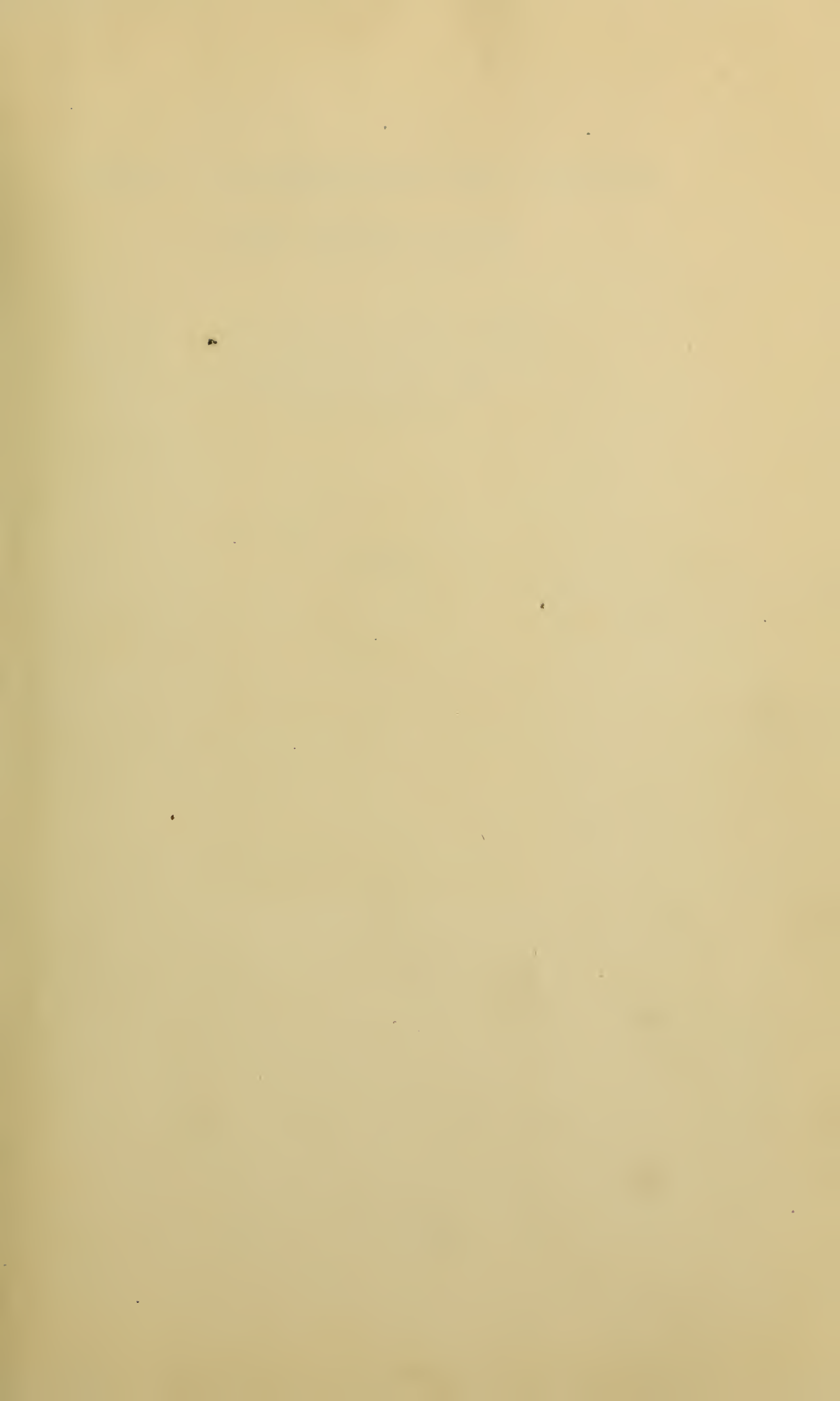
THE COMMERCIAL CLUB  
OF CHICAGO

JOHN J. GLESSNER



Class HF 276

Book .C 548











# THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

ITS BEGINNING AND  
SOMETHING OF  
ITS WORK



,,  
,,  
,,  
,,  
,,

PRIVATELY PRINTED FOR PRESENTATION  
TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

HF 296  
C 548

The Commercial Club, organized 1877.

The Merchants Club, organized 1896.

United 1907.

By transfer  
The White House  
March 3rd, 1913



## *Explanatory.*

*The Commercial Club is and has been of much importance in Chicago. Its records are not easily accessible, and of the first sixty members only four are in full active membership now. I have thought that an account of its foundation and activities, derived from the early records and the recollections of these few men, might prove worth while. I offer it to my fellow members in modesty, and without pretension either that it is full and adequate or in literary or even consecutive form, but hoping that it may find sufficient favor to warrant their indulgent attention for an idle hour.*

*J. J. G.*

*March 1, 1910.*



## BEGINNING AND DEVELOPMENT





## THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

**T**HE beginnings of any institution that becomes a power are interesting, and a review of the beginnings of the Commercial Club of Chicago may be so as a matter of retrospect or reminiscence to those who were of the founders and early members, and of history merely to the younger element, curious about the objects and methods of their forerunners.

The Commercial Club was not the original invention of Chicagoans. It had its inception in a business visit of Henry J. Macfarland to Boston in the fall of 1877, when, lunching at Union Club on Beacon Hill, the guest of his friends Jerome Jones and John W. Candler, both members and the latter then President of the Boston Commercial Club, they said to him: "We have invited ourselves to Chicago, and are going. We have been to New York and to Providence—where there was then a similar club—and to other places in New England, and now we are planning the

greatest trip we ever have had; we are going to Chicago on our own invitation." Any questions about the time for their visit and of who would be in the party and the arrangements that had been made, brought only the information that Mahlon and John Spaulding, Boston's sugar merchants, had written a personal, not official, letter to John W. Doane, Chicago's widely known grocer—that was all. Very little more was said then, but promptly on his return to Chicago Mr. Macfarland called upon Mr. Doane to say that somebody ought to entertain these forthcoming visitors, greet them on arrival, show them that they were with friends, see that they had a good time, and present Chicago in its most favorable aspect for inspection, and, incidentally, to provide the ways and means for this. A subscription paper was prepared at once, headed by Doane and circulated by Macfarland, and soon three thousand dollars were subscribed, and the subscribers were personally interested to make the coming visitors welcome.

At that time Mr. Macfarland was making his shoes at Waupun, and depending upon President Merrill of the St. Paul railroad for freights, and Mr. Merrill promptly agreed to take the party by special complimentary train to Milwaukee, where they had midday dinner at the Plankinton House, with George W. Allen as Milwaukee's speaker and other prominent Milwaukee men in attendance, and President Hughitt brought them back over the Northwestern road, the trip each way being made in the record-breaking time of two hours.

When again in Chicago, the travelers were taken to the Stock Yards, where it was then the fashion to take all strangers, and John B. Sherman gave them luncheon at the Transit House. They were shown the Board of Trade, the grain elevators, the city's banks and business houses, and, incidentally, its defective streets, etc., and later there was the great banquet at the Chicago Club, on the evening of December 12th. At the close of that meeting the entire company formed in a circle, hand grasping hand, and sang "Auld Lang Syne." And, when at the end of three days Chicago waved her visitors goodby as their special train pulled out of the wretched station of the Pennsylvania road (then the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago), the members of the committee felicitated themselves that there had been no accidents, no failures, no untoward happenings, no hitch or misadventure in the arrangements, and felt that really they had done themselves and the city great credit.

The luncheon at the Transit House was the offering of Mr. John B. Sherman, the special trains to and from Milwaukee were with the compliments of Presidents Hughitt and Merrill; each Chicagoan had paid the stipulated price for his place at the banquet, and when the committee met a few days later at the Chicago Club, it was found that all bills were paid and there was left a small balance from the three thousand dollar fund. And then and there—not because of the money that was left—it was decided to have a commercial club in Chicago.



The Boston Commercial Club dates from November 7, 1868, and the incentive for its formation was almost the same incentive as in Chicago's case nine years later. A committee of forty business men had been appointed by the Boston Board of Trade in December, 1867, to provide for entertainment of delegates from Boards of Trade all over the country to a national convention to be held in Boston in February, 1868. This committee raised eleven thousand dollars, and did its work so well, and found the association so agreeable that it continued its meetings monthly under the name of the Commercial Committee, until the fall, and then transformed itself into the Boston Commercial Club. The first membership comprised this committee of forty, but was soon increased to fifty, and at the end of the first year to sixty, at which number it remained until September 19, 1901, when increased again to seventy-five. Club meetings and dinners were held on the third Saturday afternoons for all except the summer months, beginning at two or three o'clock, and these continued to be the hours for thirty-two years, until the evening dinner hour was substituted in 1900.

The Bostonians had been full of enthusiasm for their club and what it stood for, and had talked much of it, and this greatly interested their Chicago hosts. Many of these were closely connected in business relations with the Boston men. Baker and Candler together shipped wheat and other grain all over the world. Mahlon and John Spauld-

ing, the sugar merchants, and all Chicago grocers had business dealings. Chicago boot and shoe and leather men and those of Boston were buying and selling together. And what Boston had proved good naturally found favor in Chicago eyes, and thus Boston's Commercial Club was the prototype for Chicago's. Boston had a population of about 225,000 when its club was formed. Chicago had nearly 325,000, and the population of Cincinnati and St. Louis, respectively, must have been between these limits when their clubs were started several years afterward.

On Thursday evening, the 27th of December, 1877, seventeen gentlemen who favored the formation of a commercial club—John W. Doane, Levi Z. Leiter, James M. Walker, Albert A. Sprague, Henry J. Macfarland, John M. Durand, William T. Baker, Charles E. Culver, Andrew Brown, John J. Janes, Anson Stager, George C. Clarke, Murry Nelson, Edson Keith, William A. Fuller, John T. McAuley, N. K. Fairbank—met at the rooms of the Chicago Club and organized under the name proposed by Mr. Doane—The Commercial Club of Chicago. And by Mr. Baker's motion it was decided that the seventeen men present, and those who had been invited but were not present—Marshall Field, Charles B. Kellogg, Charles M. Henderson, John Crerar, John Marshall Clark, J. Russell Jones, Solomon A. Smith, John B. Drake, Nathan Corwith, James H. Walker, and George M. Pullman—should be enrolled as

charter members. Levi Z. Leiter was chosen president, John W. Doane vice-president, Murry Nelson treasurer, and George C. Clarke secretary; and the addition of General Stager, William T. Baker and Edson Keith completed the executive committee. The members present were invited to suggest names of new members to the executive committee at least one week before the January meeting.

General Stager submitted the draft of a constitution, which was at once adopted, the opening and most important clause of which specified that "For the purpose of advancing by social intercourse and by a friendly interchange of views the prosperity and growth of the city of Chicago, the Commercial Club is organized," and which clause never was changed until elaborated a little at the time that the Commercial and Merchants clubs were united into one, February 11, 1907.

The constitution further provided that "the membership shall in no case exceed the number of sixty; the entrance fee shall be five dollars; meetings shall be held monthly, except during the summer season, and on the third Saturday of the month; place of meeting to be designated by the Executive Committee." The seventh paragraph provided that "in admission of members due regard shall be had, so far as practicable, to the branch of business in which they are engaged, so that the various commercial interests of the city shall be fairly represented in the club"; and the eighth, that "an assessment shall be laid at each meeting to cover the expenses



of the entertainment. Members who are absent and who have omitted to send satisfactory explanation to the Secretary in advance shall be liable to pay the same assessment as if they were present."

The first copies of this constitution to be printed were in a little 4x6 chocolate-colored paper covered pamphlet of eight pages—small because it held only the constitution and list of first year officers and members—and the early dinner menus were on a small cardboard folder,  $3\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with es-calloped edges.

Thirty-nine names are signed to this constitution. John W. Doane was the first man to sign the informal roll of members, December 29, 1877, but the names are written in different order when attached to the constitution as spread upon the record book. The facsimiles that appear on the following pages are interesting and to one who is familiar with the latest signatures of these men it is striking to note the very slight changes made in their pen-manship by the lapse of time.

In the original book their names are in two columns on a single page.

FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

Levi J. Fitch  
 J. M. Doane  
 Murray Blinn  
 Brok. Clark  
 Edson Keith  
 Wm. G. Baker  
 John T. McAuley  
 John S. Jones  
 G. F. Wacker  
 Erskine M. Phelps  
 John A. D. Munroe  
 A. A. Sprague  
 W. C. D. Francis  
 John M. Clark.  
 J. R. Davis.  
 A. Cornwell  
 Marshall Field  
 Chas. E. Cunniff  
 Jas. W. Walker  
 H. M. Muro.



TO THE CONSTITUTION

Andrew Brown

C. M. Henderson

Wm. D. Dyer

Wm. Hibbard

J. M. Walker

C. S. A. Sprague

C. P. Kellogg

J. M. Sisson

Saml H. Strick

A. A. Carpenter

J. M. Sisson

Chas. Hargis

Wm. D. Dyer

Wm. Christensen

W. C. Sisson

Saml M. Nielsen

Wm. A. Fuller

A. M. Wright

H. J. Sisson

The first regular monthly meeting of the Commercial Club was held at the Chicago Club house in Monroe Street, opposite the Palmer House, on Saturday afternoon, January 19, 1878, at 3:30 o'clock, with nineteen members and three guests present, one of whom, Rev. Clinton Locke, acted as chaplain. At this meeting the executive committee was given the power not only to decide upon the subjects for discussion at the meetings, but to select one or more members of the club to speak to the subjects, and that selection was equivalent to a command. It was decided that the business meetings should open regularly at 5:30 p. m., to be followed by the dinner, and then by the discussion afterwards.

To those who were present at this first regular meeting, this extract from the brief minutes of the Secretary may bring a vivid recollection of the time: "A congratulatory dispatch was received from the Boston Commercial Club, sent from their dinner table at the Parker House, and a reply was wired from the table of the Chicago Commercial Club."

In the very beginning the founders had definite ideas about the purpose for which the club was formed, but not so definite about how to regulate its methods of procedure in the best and most efficient way.

The subject for discussion at the first meeting was, "The purpose, scope and best method of conducting the club." The speakers' names do not appear in the minutes, and the surviving members do not recall who spoke; but the tradition is

that every actor in the little drama of that long ago time had a speaking part, and the presiding officer may have called upon the guests also to bear their testimony, and very likely Dr. Locke, with his ready wit and obliging spirit, closed the meeting. At any rate, this became the custom at subsequent meetings, honored in its observance, of giving the minister the last words before adjournment.

Originally there were eight meetings in the year, one each in the months from October to May, inclusive, but always the executive committee has had power to change the day or omit any of the meetings. The day was changed from the third to the last Saturday of the month, and when it was found difficult after a while to get good attendance at some of the spring meetings, the number was reduced to seven, and the season closed as now with April.

There were other clubs, of course, but at the time of the formation of the Commercial Club the business men of Chicago had smaller acquaintance one with another than now, even though the smaller town gave better opportunities for acquaintance, and smaller perhaps than with merchants and manufacturers in the East. Mr. Baker delighted in telling how, during that first visit of the Boston Club, while in the Transit House lavatory, just before the luncheon, he was having some difficulty to hang his coat on a high peg, when a tall, handsome man reached over and with, "Let me help you, please," placed it easily; and Baker turned to look into the smiling face of Otho Sprague. And a



smiling face it was—a winning smile that, having seen, one could not quickly forget. Up to that time these two men never had met, though both had been prominent here in business for many years.

At first the dinners were not so elaborate as now; there were not so many courses, but they were equally good. The members were not quite so well acquainted with each other, but the spirit was there. The charge was five dollars, and it was the treasurer's duty to collect this either at the close of each meeting or very soon thereafter. Each member paid for his guest, also, if he had one, and something more to provide for the guests of the club. In January of 1883 an annual assessment of \$40.00 was voted on each member, to provide for the year's regular expenses, and after that the monthly collection from the members was for their guests only. When the growth of extravagance and perhaps of waste showed that the amount of income thus derived was insufficient to meet the expenses, the yearly assessment was increased to sixty dollars, and the price for guests' dinners fixed at seven dollars and a half each.

The club was especially fortunate in the rare quality of its original membership, composed of men who easily stood out above their fellows in the community; men who not only made themselves and their own businesses, but made the town they lived in, and loved it. Pullman and Fairbank and Field and Doane and Stager and Crerar and Leiter and Farwell and the two Keiths and Armour, and men like these, would have made their

mark anywhere, and in any time. They were fortunate in their surroundings, too—the young and marvelously growing town, with boundless possibilities for trade within and around it, and a community not bound by tradition—but the men contributed more than the environment. Possibly even abler men might not be so prominent now, because of the higher average in the grade of business men and the business enterprises they direct; but, whether or no, Chicago probably never will look upon such a group again—men so conspicuous for high ideals, strict integrity, liberality, public spirit.

Competition was just as keen as before, perhaps even stronger, but the club took away its animosities, for men cannot sit opposite each other at dinner and look across the table into each other's eyes, they cannot work together tonight in committee for the common good and then go out for unbusinesslike competition tomorrow morning.

The membership was intended to be representative of the large business interests of the city, to consist of men of probity of character, of broad public spirit, who had proved their interest in the general welfare by a record of things actually done and of liberality, as well as by willingness to do more. To be eligible for membership a man must have shown conspicuous success in his private business, with a broad and comprehending sympathy with important affairs of city and state, and a generous subordinating of self in the interests of the community—he must be a man of good deeds and clean thinking and high ideals, and with this much

in common there could hardly fail to be genial good fellowship and a proper regard for the amenities of life. The membership was to be small enough and homogeneous enough not to be unwieldy, yet embracing as wide a diversity of opinions as was compatible with that. It was to be a club of serious purpose, tolerant of opposing opinions, recognizing its obligation to the community, despising mean and sordid actions as men of high character do. In short, to be a member a man must be animated by the highest code of business and social ethics.

The plan originally was to have not more than two members from any one line of trade, though changes in this came with the passing of time. There never was a feeling of exclusiveness, and the club has always encouraged other clubs and associations with objects of civic righteousness and advancement, but with membership so limited as this it was not possible to include all men of suitable character and attainments in the city, and thus came about the formation of another similar body.

A group of men full of the energy and enthusiasm of youth, thinking there was work for them to do and believing it were better done by union of effort, organized the Merchants Club in 1896. The preliminary meeting for this organization was held at 2 p. m., November 30th, at the University Club, and the first regular meeting and dinner of the new club was at the Auditorium hotel on Saturday evening, February 6th, following. The most active men in the initial movement were Dunlap Smith, whose death, the second on the list of the



Merchants Club, came five years later, December 25, 1901, and Arthur Meeker. There were thirty-two charter members, the total active membership being fixed first at forty, changed within the year to fifty, and again in 1899 to sixty. These were to be as nearly as possible representative of all lines of business in the city. The regular meetings were to be on the first Saturdays of the months, October to May inclusive, but soon changed to the second Saturdays, at 6:30 p. m., the number reduced to six—November to April, inclusive. The entrance fee originally five dollars, and annual fee two dollars, and the members to pay for their dinners at three dollars and a half each after each meeting, were changed afterwards to make the entrance fee twenty-five dollars and annual dues sixty dollars, covering the cost of dinners.

John V. Farwell, Jr., was the first president, Dunlap Smith vice-president, Charles R. Corwith treasurer, Walter H. Wilson secretary, and Arthur Meeker, Clarence Buckingham and Harry Gordon Selfridge executive committee. Meetings of the executive committee were held weekly, usually at the luncheon hour.

The objects and plan of government of this club were very similar to those of the Commercial Club, except in the important provisions for keeping the membership young—"No one who has reached the age of forty-five years shall be eligible to active membership, and any member who has reached the age of fifty years shall thereupon become an honorary member, leaving a vacancy in the active list

to be filled. The name of this class of members was changed from "honorary" to "associate" very soon.

Fines for active members for absence from meetings without acceptable reasons were five dollars, ten dollars and fifteen dollars, according to circumstances.

In January, 1900, an agreement was made between the Commercial and Merchants Clubs that "No active member in either club shall be selected to membership in the other club until he has been for five years an active member in the club to which he was first elected," the understanding being that for existing memberships the five years should begin September 1, 1897, and end September 1, 1902. This agreement expired at the latter date by limitation.

The Merchants Club always was active and prosperous; its meetings were held regularly and largely attended; it inspired, aided and accomplished very important work for civic welfare; it established the First Pawnors' bank, developed new and improved systems of municipal accounting, and was influential in many other civic matters both separately and in conjunction with the Commercial Club; it took the initiative in the city plan problem, and in every way demonstrated its power for good in the community, until finally its activities were merged in the Commercial Club's under the latter's name, in February, 1907.

As with the Commercial Club, a few of its meetings were given over to entertainment only. It



visited the iron and copper country of northern Michigan as guests of Mr. H. R. McCullough and the C. & N. W. Railway in June, 1901; it was entertained by Mr. Alfred Baker at the Onwentsia Club June 17, 1903; it visited Madison, Wisconsin, the same year, as guests of Mr. McCullough again; and in the beginning of 1896 made a trip to Mexico by special train and held its fifty-fifth regular meeting at Cafe de Chapultepec in the City of Mexico on February 18th, with addresses in the vernacular by both Mexicans and members.

Boston established its Merchants Club as early as 1884, thus antedating this club by about the same space of time as in the case of the two Commercial Clubs.

The Boston and Cincinnati clubs have sometimes held meetings or outings in May at their country clubs or elsewhere, and the Merchants Club of Chicago has also held such meetings, but the Commercial Club of Chicago rarely has done so.

Previous to the formation of the Cincinnati Commercial Club, July 29, 1880, the Chicago organization was asked to send a committee to Cincinnati to tell of this club and its plans and its work. Messrs. John W. Doane, George C. Clarke and Murry Nelson represented Chicago, and Cincinnati made its organization identical in object with this club's and its constitution almost identical in terms.

When the St. Louis club was formed the next February, it also followed the same lines, and thus the four clubs practically are the same in objects and interests. In each case the rapid growth of

the city and its commerce showed the importance of the water supply and drainage, sewers, bridges, and river and harbor improvements, etc., requiring action of municipal and state legislatures, and, hence, the foundation of these clubs,—that the business men might be better informed about and more effectively influence the improvement and control of these works. What more natural than that the same causes should have produced the same results?

No man who has sought election for himself, by lobbying or otherwise, has succeeded in getting the unanimous recommendation of the executive committee necessary to present his name to the Commercial Club for its ballots, and so carefully has the work of the committee been done that no man who has had that recommendation has failed of election finally, though several times the elections have been postponed that club members might have opportunity to investigate for themselves the qualifications of candidates.

In two cases sons have succeeded their fathers, after an interval, and in one case father, son and grandson all have been members, though not all at the same time.

The growth of the city in size and in kinds of business furnishes reasons why the membership should grow larger with the passing years, opposed by inducements to limited membership and therefore greater possible homogeneity and sympathetic spirit at meetings. Duties and obligations sit more lightly on the individuals in a large membership

than if smaller. When the Merchants Club was united with the Commercial the active membership limit was fixed at ninety.

Neither the religion, politics or racial derivation of members or speakers has ever been analyzed. There always has been great catholicity in these respects.

In the beginning the customs of the club were quite different from present-day customs. Several of the dinners in the first season were held in the afternoon, and the dress therefor, of course, was either the frock coat of Sunday wear or the customary business dress. When a later dinner hour was adopted there was at the same time a rigid rule requiring evening dress, though this met with some little opposition, for the business hours were longer then than now, and some members objected that evening dress encouraged formality, and there was hardly time to go home, dress and return in time for the dinner.

But the rule was inflexible, and so was the secretary. It is not possible to overestimate how much it meant to the club that it should have had but two secretaries in the first twenty-four years after its foundation, both men of such unusual character—George C. Clarke and John James Janes. These secretaries were deeply attached to the club and had a personal pride in it, and nothing was so difficult or so distasteful that they would not do it cheerfully if for the good of the organization. Their painstaking devotion to its welfare and their genial personalities made them universal favorites among the members.



There were advantages in the continuing secretaries. The club was too young for traditions; the secretary took the place of tradition, and by his means traditions were built up and preserved in ways that could not have been otherwise. These secretaries were most punctilious and courteous in correspondence with the lowliest as with the greatest of the land, and gave personal and never-failing attention to every detail of meeting and dinner and subject. Their devotion encouraged the same interest and devotion in the members.

It is one thing to induce regular attendance after a club has proved its worth and importance and achieved its recognized position, but a very different thing when that same club was in the formative period, with no record behind it; and indeed there were occasions in the first years to admonish many members to be more regular in attendance or in sending regrets that furnished an acceptable reason. The first device to induce, not to say compel, attendance was the implication in the constitution that members, if absent, might be required to pay the same amount as if present. There was a rule, too, that absence from three consecutive meetings without acceptable excuse served to cancel membership automatically. One noted banker was asked if he no longer cared for the club when he was absent from several meetings. Another member was warned that irregular attendance was putting his membership in jeopardy. Some of the best members of the club were subjects of this attention on the part of the executive committee. Several

responded with humble and contrite apologies and earnest promises of reform, and were reinstated. This attention of its officers, and the demonstration that each meeting gave of the importance and possibilities of the club produced that spirit of devotion and loyalty that has become its marked characteristic. It became so much the thing to be regular and regardful of one's duties and responsibilities in the club that members have been known—not once, but many times—to leave business engagements in New York or Boston or elsewhere, and come home to Chicago for one day to attend a meeting, and return at once to resume the interrupted business. At the first assembling of the executive committee after the club dinner, the secretary would report absentees—so many without regrets, so many with regrets, stating what the grounds were. It then would be “voted that So and so's regrets were not satisfactory and that the secretary so notify him.” The force of admonition and example, and the growing realization of duty made this sort of thing rarely necessary after the first two years.

On an occasion when twenty-eight members were present, with eight guests, making thirty-six in all, of the thirty absentees seven sent no regrets whatever, and of the twenty-three regrets received nine were unsatisfactory. At another meeting there were thirty-six absentees out of fifty-eight members. In one case a special committee was appointed to wait upon the offending and neglectful member, “to ascertain if his uniform absence from the meetings was caused by lack of interest in the

club.” But to guard against possible neglect or an occasionally defective memory, and to make the assurance of attendance or a proper notice doubly sure, at the end of the fourth year the Secretary was instructed to prepare a new article of the constitution, which was adopted at the March meeting, 1884, providing for a fine of ten dollars for members who were absent from any regular meeting without having sent proper regrets, and making infliction of the fine imperative.

The club was governed by an executive committee, which always has met soon after the regular dinner, and again shortly before the next dinner, and as often as seemed necessary between these times. These meetings usually were at the luncheon hour at one of the down town clubs, generally at the Chicago Club, though, for a time, at the Union League, and occasionally at the offices of president or secretary, or sometimes at their homes in the evening. After February 6, 1885, it was customary to pay for these luncheons from the club's treasury, but this custom was discontinued several years ago, and now the committee meets weekly, and each member pays for his luncheon himself.

The law of the club, albeit unwritten, always has been that each administration was elected for one year only, to be followed by a new election and an almost entirely new administration—one or two members to be re-elected to provide some continuity in the plans from year to year. So fortunate was the club in its early secretaries that this



official was treated as continuing. George Clarke, the first secretary, held the office until his health failed in the fall of 1885, and when John Janes, the succeeding secretary, passed away in 1901 after fifteen years of devoted service, no one could be found able to give the necessary time and attention for long. To meet this condition and still not make an entire break in official organization, it was provided then that two members of the executive committee should be elected for two years, and the retiring president should hold over for the next year as member of the executive committee.

The club honored itself while it honored its secretaries. Though he knew he was doomed, and the doom only a little while in the future, Mr. Clarke responded in cheerfulness and high spirits when in 1886 the club sent to him at Thomasville, Georgia, with the affectionate regards of its members, a splendid silver loving cup; and Mr. Janes in the same way, as soon as he recovered from his surprise at the receipt of a silver service in January, 1891. The cheer of these men under adverse conditions was ever bright. When confined to his bed with three broken ribs and other painful injuries, Secretary Janes apologized for non-appearance at the dinner of November 25, 1889, in this way: "The Secretary presents his compliments to his fellow members, and begs to remark that having drawn the capital prize in a recent railroad accident, and being somewhat 'rattled—in his ribs,' he will be obliged to forego the pleasure of being present at this meeting, but will prepare the diagram as usual," etc.

At the meeting of January 30, 1886, Mr. John Crerar, when Mr. Clarke's health compelled him to retire as secretary, submitted the following:

"The Commercial Club of Chicago was organized December 27, 1877, and from that date to the present meeting, George C. Clarke has been its secretary.

"The Club has honored itself by giving him its unanimous endorsement and approval, as indicated by his repeated and always unanimous re-election, and it is eminently fit and proper that a minute should be made on the records of the club, expressive of the feelings of the members, as they part from him as their secretary and sunder the many ties that have bound them to him in official relationship.

"Those of us who have been associated with him in the government of the club will bear willing testimony to the zeal and fidelity with which he has always discharged the duties of his position and made the burden of the office all the easier for the rest of us by his complete knowledge of the details of the official business since the organization of the club.

"An affable and courteous gentleman, he had 'the heart to conceive, the understanding to direct, and the hand to execute,' and it is not saying too much to affirm that no one member has done more, nay, has done as much, by active, intelligent and conscientious personal work, in and out of executive session, to keep the club in good working order, by the use of sound common business sense, added to a clear and comprehensive understanding of the reasons for the organization of the club and the results to be obtained by honest and pure views of business life and character. He laid the foun-



dation of your club sure and strong, and brought into hearty co-operation and friendly sympathy interests that had been widely scattered, and thus secured benefits to all, changed acquaintances into friends, and gave an impulse to manly life by bringing us all together, so that we could see each other face to face and look each other level in the eye.

"Holding these views, and knowing that we voice the sentiments of our fellow members, I move, on behalf of the committee,

"That the hearty thanks of the Commercial Club of Chicago be, and they are hereby, tendered to Mr. George C. Clarke, for the faithful and devoted manner in which he has performed the duties of secretary of the club since the date of its organization, coupled with the earnest wish of each and every member that his health may speedily become re-established and that we may be enabled soon to welcome him back, and show him by our unselfish devotion and kindness that we have kept some of the spirit with which he has served us, lo, these many years.

"But, Mr. President, these are mere words, even if the heart be behind them, and your committee has therefore procured, for presentation to Mr. Clarke as a further proof of your esteem and friendship, the solid silver loving-cup which stands before you, suitably engraved, as a gift from you all."

"JOHN CRERAR,  
"JOHN M. CLARK,  
"EDSON KEITH,  
Committee."

To be chosen an officer of the club has been a coveted distinction, though often accepted with some trepidation—a trepidation born from the sense of responsibility. The chronological lists of meetings and subjects of discussion show the officers and their terms of service. Several of the most prominent of the early members never held office, though the chief executive position was at different times urged upon them—Field and Pullman and Crerar, among those who have gone, and others who still are here. They felt honored in the choice, but distrustful of ability to give time and attention to the work. A diligent but not quite successful effort has been made to present in this book pictures of all former presidents of the club.

The Club never has had a home, and its meetings, therefore, have been movable as to place and somewhat changeable as to time—at first early in the afternoon and afterwards changed to a later hour; at first circulating from one hotel to another, or at different clubs; once even at the Literary Club, where were supposed to be meager culinary appliances. That was an occasion when the plain living and high thinking of the Literary Club might be absorbed without in any way sacrificing the commercial habit of plain speaking—this time to the subject of “Smoke, steam whistles and bad streets.”

The regular meetings, always preceded by dinners, have been held at the Chicago, Literary, and Calumet Clubs, at Kinsley’s, at the Grand Pacific, Palmer, Tremont, Sherman, Leland, Richelieu, Metropole, Auditorium and Congress hotels. Pos-

sibly because of the dignity that accompanies age, the club dinners are generally held in the same place now, month after month; but in reality that custom began when one of its old members in the hotel business, Mr. John B. Drake, showed his appreciation of the club by giving unusual service. Mr. Drake declared it was his privilege, and he insisted that the club should dine at his hotel. He prided himself on the quality of the dinners, on the special dishes that he presented, on the elegance of the appointments and promptness of service, whether his compensation equalled the cost to him or not. He was interested in the objects of the club, and especially in the Manual Training School. In January, 1890, by his invitation, he entertained the club and the faculty and students of the school at an elaborate dinner, following the commencement exercises. Fine examples of the students' work were shown, and the club members were made better acquainted with the results and possibilities of the school.

Eighty-nine of the first one hundred and twenty-five regular dinners of the club were held at the Grand Pacific hotel, under the management of Drake, Parker & Co. The meeting of March 30, 1895, was the last under that management, the firm retiring from business, partly because of the illness of Mr. Drake, and partly because one-half of the building could no longer be had for hotel purposes. The club in suitable resolutions expressed regret at leaving the familiar quarters where there had been so much good cheer.



Originally it was arranged that the dinners should cost about five dollars per plate, and the price was collected from each member at the time of the dinner, each man, of course, paying for his own guest. After awhile there appears in the minutes of the executive committee: "Voted, that the secretary circulate a subscription paper among members, for a fund to defray the expenses of entertaining club guests at dinner," and presently it was provided that "an assessment be made at the beginning of each year on all members, to provide for the expense of the eight meetings of the year," and the amount was fixed at forty dollars. Extra assessments were made for some special or unusual dinners, notably the dinner to General Grant, where there was a profuse decoration of flowers, etc., and great pains were taken to have the dinner and the wines of the highest quality.

At first it was the custom of the executive committee to appoint from its own members a committee of one or two, to arrange for the coming dinner, a different committee for each dinner. After a time the dinner committee was appointed in the same way to act for the full year. Still later the dinner arrangements were left to the discretion of the full executive committee.

The question of dinner, always of exceeding great importance, has its importance enhanced, if that is possible, in this club. Men are susceptible to the demands of appetite and rejoice in the good things of the table, and here, where the eating precedes the discussion, and where the committee selects the

menu, the importance cannot be overrated. Besides the eight men of the committee there were fifty-two of the rank and file, with fifty-two different sets of ideas and appetites to be appeased, and each privileged to express satisfaction or dissatisfaction. Some believed in generous dining and wining, at least while they were young; and so the dinners were increased in quality and in length and in style and in cost, and the annual assessment or dues became sixty dollars instead of forty. There have been protests against long dinners, and protests against short dinners, and, again, protests against rich dinners, and still again protests against simple dinners; but always there has been toleration, for even those who are abstemiously compelled do not insist that because of their virtue there shall be no more cakes and ale.

The dinner committee was followed by a seating committee, chosen in the same way. That committee met on Friday evenings preceding the dinners, and wrestled with the problem of putting side by side the men who would be most congenial, and separating, as widely as possible, some others. Sometimes their labors stretched into the small hours of the night. If the capacity for infinite pains is the true measure of genius, this committee of the olden time always measured up to the highest standard of genius. The increased size of the club has so added to the difficulties of this committee that the present plan has been adopted of letting this responsibility rest more lightly on those in charge.

There have been special dinners, as for Grant on his return from his trip around the world, for Sheridan on removing to Washington, to the two Sher-mans, warrior and statesman, and for various Presidents. There have been marked dinners, when noted judges, lawyers, senators, and officials of various ranks have not hesitated in emphatic speech in praise, or more emphatic condemnation of the policies of the club or the subjects presented. One or two have shown a little infirmity of temper, as when the governor of the State some years ago took advantage of his opportunity to go outside of the subject to free his mind because of personal criticism by Chicago papers. The club has been so honored by its many distinguished guests that these one or two exceptions stand out with somewhat startling clearness.

A few meetings were for entertainment only, as when Paul Du Chaillu spoke of his African explorations, when Dr. Barrows told of his year's work in India, when Tripler discoursed on liquid air and Tesla exploited the potentialities of electricity.

There have been special meetings to express sorrow at the death or removal of comrades, there have been meetings of congratulation and welcome to national officials and visiting friends and to members who have been chosen for high office. The club has entertained statesmen and soldiers and artists and men of letters, and foreign potentates and their representatives, and its pleasantest memories cluster about the entertainments to and by the similar clubs of Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis.



There have been special trips and excursions, voyages of pleasure, and informing journeys. Exchanges of hospitality between Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis have been delightful and most important, and the friendships made between the men and the clubs and the cities have a value that cannot be expressed. These four organizations have united the four cities in neighborly feeling and developed a spirit of comradeship, and together make a power for the highest commercial integrity and enterprise, and a bulwark against encroachment of whatever smacks of civic dishonor or disgrace.

The club has asked no favors and has paid its way. Not that it has not accepted invitations, for these have been most generously and graciously made, and graciously accepted, from railroads and cities, and other clubs and individuals, but, except when it was an invited guest, the club has paid its own transportation and all expenses. It has received much flattering and generous hospitality, has been royally entertained by Boston and Cincinnati and St. Louis and the similar clubs there, it has been entertained by cities of the far west and of the Pacific coast, it has traveled east and west as guests of important railroads, the most notable of these trips being to California, but no invitation ever has been extended or accepted with an ulterior motive, and though in its travels it frequently has been offered compliments of sleeping cars and special trains and travel facilities and custom houses, it has preferred to pay its own way.

In all there have been held by the Commercial and Merchants Clubs since their formation until the close of the last club year, May 1, 1909, two hundred and seventy regular meetings. At these meetings about one hundred and twenty-five separate subjects were discussed, and after making allowance for a few meetings when there was no subject, this indicates that some subjects must have been considered more than once. Several of the subjects seem to have had perennial interest.

More than fifty meetings have been devoted to the consideration of municipal affairs in their various branches, at least a dozen upon taxation, and an equal number about the city plan, nearly as many about education, about elections, about strictly national affairs, about foreign relations, about the World's Fair, and complimentary to officials, more than three times as many about this and kindred organizations and what they properly could do, and only four that were solely for entertainment.

The discussions have been upon a great variety of topics or at least there has been a great variety in the wording of the topics. These have embraced commerce and industry and education and philanthropy and politics as related to the general welfare, etc., etc. The speaking never has been confined to club members. On the contrary, the club has been glad to offer a forum for the expression of the views of statesmen and soldiers, professional men and men of affairs generally.



In the Commercial Club minutes eighty-four different ministers are mentioned as having been present at meetings; at ten meetings the minister's name is not mentioned, though one was present, and at six of the closed meetings there was no minister. The minister's name is not given for the sixty-one meetings of the Merchants Club.

The chaplains almost universally have been favorites with the members. However vigorously they may have spoken of men's sins on Sunday mornings, they usually were genial and complacent on Saturday nights. When some member did not call for and bring the minister, the club provided a carriage to bring him to the meeting and take him home. Almost always the minister was given the last words before adjournment, and usually the flowers from the speakers' table were sent home to gladden the heart of the minister's wife, and perhaps to mollify her possible criticism of the lateness of the hour of return of her lord.

There have been many brilliant men in the ministry in Chicago, and many of these have been called to at least point toward straight and narrow paths at the Saturday evening meetings, and sometimes the discussions on Saturday evenings in the club may have suggested practical applications for Sunday morning discourses in the church. Once, because of an inclement night and an indifferent coachman, Dr. Locke was a little late, and on entering the room found everybody seated and the dinner in progress. His remark as he took his seat, that if too late to say grace he hoped at least he was

in time to return thanks, was the prelude and promise for a pleasant talk at the close of the meeting.

It was related—not recorded in the minutes—that on one occasion, at an executive committee meeting, one member wanted to know why his minister should not be selected as chaplain for the next meeting, and when asked his name in order that the invitation might be given—“Well—er—hang it all, what *is* his name? I’ll find out and let you know it in the morning.”

The club has desired to avoid extravagance in its expenses. Except when some enterprise of unusual importance was undertaken, great enough to be financed by itself, it has been a matter of pride and principle on the part of the management that the ordinary expenses for the year should be met by the ordinary income from dues and fines. This has not been a carking care or anxiety to the management, since there has been always the knowledge that in the final analysis bankruptcy might be avoided by calling upon the members for a horizontal contribution. The words “assessment to prevent or overcome a deficit” have had a harsh and disagreeable sound for official ears, and the softer “to prorate the expenses” has become the more popular expression, and doubtless equally productive.

The name Commercial Club has been honored by the institutions of Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis. Other Commercial Clubs, so-called,

have been formed in many cities, animated in part by similar purposes and desires, but so far as known none have been so permanent and none have reached the same plane of efficiency and high endeavor, and sometimes the name has seemed a misnomer.

It has been said in criticism that the club has done little, much less than should have been expected—that having much in ability and opportunity much in performance should be required of it. Often it has preferred to work through other instrumentalities. Indeed, for many years it was its custom merely to discuss the topics for the information of its members, and endeavor to have the actual work done by individuals outside or by other organizations. The early records show that it was not unusual to ask some other body to carry out some object that had been discussed, as when it called upon the Citizens' Association to appoint a committee on gambling, and, again, to give aid in the anarchist trials following the bomb throwing at Haymarket Square, and also in the boodler trials in the County Board under the direction of Murry Nelson, when the Commercial Club made up a guaranty fund of one hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars for the expenses of detectives and investigators which the County was unable to provide.

The Commercial Club dates from December, 1877. It was democratic only in that its officers, except the secretary, were supposed each to be satisfied with a single term of one year. Its membership of sixty, though it was specified that not more



than fifty of these should be chosen the first year, was so small that each man might reasonably hope to become president in the fullness of time. The first treasurer held office for four years, and other treasurers have been re-elected.

At the banquet that preceded the organization of the Commercial Club, it developed that Boston had readier speakers than were found among business men in this western city, and it is one of the traditions, ancient and severe, that if Chicago had not called upon the professions in the persons of J. M. Walker, Esq., and Wirt Dexter, Esq., for aid, the impression made would have been distinctly inferior in comparison. Since then there has been developed here a greater proportion of men who think clearly and logically and talk fluently when on their feet.

In January, 1885, the secretary was instructed to procure a suitable photograph album and endeavor to get cabinet photographs of every member of the club, living or dead. And now that the necrology list has grown so large, we can realize the interest and value that would lie in such an album if it had been provided. But, alas, after two years the secretary was obliged to report that when he had procured his own and one other, he would have two of the desired photographs. Though he has made identical reports several times since then, perhaps it is not too late now to remedy this omission, or to attempt it.

Founded by a handful of earnest men on strictly democratic principles, with minds open to hear

all sides and accept the good from opposing views, it nevertheless would have been more than human to expect that there never should arise a feeling of superiority among charter members over those who came next, and in those who came next over the still later members, and as one looks back through the vista of thirty-two years, it is apparent that some of this feeling still persists. The years filled with high endeavor, restless energy and a due measure of accomplishment have not destroyed this superior feeling, but have fostered an intense devotion to the organization and pride in its good name that have kept undesirable elements out of the membership, or if perchance one departed ever so little from the rule of strict integrity and honor the atmosphere was so depressing and unfriendly that he soon dropped out without remark.

The list of meetings and subjects gives only an inadequate idea of the activities of the Commercial and Merchants Clubs. Of the two hundred and seventy regular meetings, it is within bounds to say that each one has helped to forward some good end, and many of them have been the initial and moving causes of important achievements. It would be invidious and almost impossible to estimate the relative value of these meetings or say which were the most important, bearing in mind that in any great permanent work the prime necessity is for forming public opinion before there can be any accomplishment.

At some of the early meetings, in 1878, the discussions and the subsequent action by the members



were influential in restoring the confidence of the public in the certificates of indebtedness or scrip which the city for several years had been issuing to raise money in the interim between the voting of appropriations and the collection of taxes, and which for that year amounted to about four millions of dollars. This scrip had been used to pay policemen, firemen, teachers, and the daily expenses of conducting the city's business. The probability that their issue might be declared illegal and the city enjoined from payment reduced their current value until the agitation of this club raised the quotation to about par and saved the credit of the city. Similar certificates have not been issued since.

Perhaps the meetings from which the club's influence was most directly and speedily felt were those that resulted in founding the Chicago Manual Training School; in presenting to the United States Government the site for Fort Sheridan, and to the State the site for the Second Regiment Armory; in the prosecution and punishment of certain county and municipal officials; in the original efforts for legislation for the Drainage Canal; in its early advocacy and support of the World's Columbian Exposition; in raising endowment funds for the Illinois Manual Training School at Glenwood and the St. Charles School for Boys; in presenting to the United States Government a site for the Naval Training School at Lake Bluff; in establishing a street cleaning bureau for the city; in presenting to the city a site for public playgrounds at Chicago avenue and Lincoln street; in establishing the

First State Pawnors' society; in the inquiry into the city's accounting methods that resulted in new and improved systems; and, most recent of all, in its earnest efforts to amend the general school law to provide improvements in the system of public education, and in the inception and development of the Chicago Plan. These and other philanthropic and public spirited works of these two clubs, now merged into one, have involved the collection and disbursement of more than a million of dollars, and have been potent in many reforms and improvements.

The discussions in the meetings have given the members new ideas and inspired them with new ideals, and induced broader views of their relations to their neighbors. They have given unbounded faith each in the others and in the city, and it is not vainglorious to believe that association together in the objects of this club has made for higher citizenship. If the new city plan never shall be accomplished, it has made better and more intelligent and devoted citizens of those who have worked it out and of those who have listened to them.

There have been a number of special or marked meetings, the first of which, the dinner to Gen. Grant when he was returning from his tour around the world, was even more than a dinner of the Commercial Club; it was a function of representative citizens to honor the greatest military genius of the country, and was as brilliant and fine as the club could make it. There was no economy of pains or expense or labor. Officials and members alike vied

with each other in marks of high esteem and appreciation of the honored guest, and the General himself was as modest and unassuming as became the great man he was. The Grand Pacific was in gala dress on this occasion, December 6, 1879; there were one hundred and forty-four members and guests in attendance, including delegates from the Boston Club and from the States adjoining Illinois, the military in full uniform. The welcome by President Doane and others on the part of the club, and the gracious response by Gen. Grant, Gen. Horace Porter and others of the visitors emphasized and increased the prevailing spirit of good fellowship. With true hospitality, as few demands as possible were made upon the guests, that they might find their visit comfortable and agreeable.

The forty-third regular dinner of the Commercial Club, November 24, 1883, was made as a compliment and farewell to Lieut. Gen. Philip Sheridan, when he left Chicago to take up his residence in Washington. It was given at the Calumet Club, with one hundred and twenty-five members and guests. Besides Gen. Sheridan's own feeling remarks, there were addresses by Gen. Schofield, Edward G. Mason, Rev. Louis S. Osborne, Hon. J. Sterling Morton, and Franklin MacVeagh.

A most important meeting was that concerning the Manual Training School, March 25, 1882. Murry Nelson, at the suggestion of Colonel Augustus Jacobson and Mr. Charles Ham, had proposed the foundation of this school, in which he was ably assisted by John M. Clark. At this meeting Mr.



Field made one of the very few speeches of his life, and closed by heading the subscription paper with his contribution of twenty thousand dollars, and fifty-seven thousand dollars were pledged before the adjournment.

Another important meeting of the same character was the one planning for Fort Sheridan, May 30, 1885, at the Grand Pacific hotel, another of the rare occasions when Mr. Field spoke. Those meetings on the subject of Chicago's Drainage and Water Supply, with addresses by eminent engineers and others, that on the Annexation of Hawaii, when Dr. von Holst made a masterly address, and that on the Open Door in China, which meeting was complimentary to Lord Charles Beresford, were notable.

The dinner on Washington's birthday, 1892, at Grand Pacific hotel, when the subject discussed was the World's Fair, was the largest during the Club's history, when 47 members, 40 members' guests, and 152 club guests sat down to dine, a total of 239. Arrangements had been made to seat 48 more, and at the last moment two tables that were unoccupied were removed. The Mayor, Senators and Representatives in Congress, representative officials from abroad, and other eminent men made short and stirring addresses. Notwithstanding the large number present, this dinner was served with the same care and promptness as all the others, and there was no sense of haste or crowding or confusion.

There was a long series of meetings about the



World's Fair, before and after this one, addressed by eminent speakers, preceding the Fair and during the Fair and afterwards, to the great benefit of the enterprise and of the city. Later there were several meetings in the interest of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

There were dinners to Presidents and Ex-Presidents and Presidents-elect and cabinet officers.

Several of the best meetings were when speakers had disappointed the executive committee and compelled it to make new arrangements at the last moment. Once the meeting was adjourned just as the speaking began, because of the announcement of the assassination of Mayor Harrison, October 28, 1893.

Several times meetings have been omitted because of the death of a member just before the meeting.

Very rarely, only once or twice, have ladies been admitted at the meetings, and then only in some representative capacity, not from lack of gallantry, let us hasten to add. The Boston club has been more gallant, and at least once gave a "Reception to the Ladies," April 23, 1885.

The club has taken several important trips or excursions, sometimes on its own initiative, sometimes on the invitation of the kindred clubs, and occasionally as the guest of individuals. The first of these was to Boston in June, 1879, at the invitation of the Boston club. The Chicago club chartered a special train, and a goodly proportion of its members made the trip and were hospitably entertained for three

days, receiving every attention, including a sail down the bay under the auspices of the Eastern Yacht club, a fish dinner at Tafts, and finally a grand banquet at Horticultural Hall on the last evening. That was a great meeting. After a charming welcome by the President of the Boston club, Mr. J. W. Candler, with response by Mr. Doane for Chicago and some remarks by Mr. MacVeagh, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes read his poem, written for this occasion, and at its conclusion graciously gave the original manuscript into the hands of President Doane for the club. The poet Longfellow was present also and spoke briefly, and so did Phillips Brooks. Holmes was 70 and Longfellow 72 years old, and both were in delicate health, but Brooks was in the prime of physical vigor.

By invitation, the Cincinnati and St. Louis clubs visited Chicago May 25-28, 1882, and were entertained at the thirty-fourth regular dinner on the 27th. Words of pleasant greeting were spoken by representatives of both of the visiting clubs, by Chicago members and by Gen. Sheridan and Rev. R. A. Holland. Though a regular dinner, this was somewhat more elaborate than customary, and an extra assessment of ten dollars was made upon each member of the Chicago club. Rev. Brooke Herford was chaplain, and 47 members, 29 guests, and 66 club guests, including the visitors, were present.

Boston's club went to St. Louis in November of this year, but did not come to Chicago.

Chicago's club accepted the Boston club's invitation and visited them, June 27 and 28, 1885, when

Franklin MacVeagh was president and made a speech that was quoted by newspapers and periodicals all over the country and praised for its grace and force and meaning.

There was hanging in the Boston Athenaeum at this time a portrait of Gen. Henry Dearborn, painted by Gilbert Stuart in 1812, the property of the Dearborn family. Owing to reverses in the family fortunes the portrait was for sale. Besides its artistic importance, it was of interest to Chicago because of General Dearborn's distinguished military services during the revolutionary war and as Secretary of War in President Jefferson's cabinet in 1803, when he directed the building of the outpost at Chicago that was named Fort Dearborn in his honor. As commander in chief of all United States forces he planned the defense of this northwest territory, including Fort Dearborn, though these plans were superseded by counter orders from the War Department at Washington that resulted in the massacre of 1812-13. While on the dining car on the return trip the club members made up a purse of several thousand dollars to buy the painting, and subsequently they presented it to the Calumet Club on its next Old Settlers' day. It now hangs in that club house. There were four copies of the painting, but this one is the original.

Boston's club visited Chicago again June 8 to 11, 1887, when the dinner was at the Grand Pacific; chaplain, Prof. Swing; 45 members, 42 guests, 50 club guests, including visitors. Part of the entertainment on this visit was taking the Boston guests to Minneapolis and St. Paul on a special and beau-



tifully equipped train, with a banquet at Lake Minnetonka, at invitation of men of the Twin Cities.

During the week of June 2, 1889, in the company of the Cincinnati and St. Louis clubs, the Chicago club had the pleasure of a trip over the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad as guests of President Ingalls, and visited White Sulphur Springs, Natural Bridge, Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Jamestown, etc.

On the 29th of October, 1891, and for the three days following, the club was honored by a visit from the Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis clubs; dinner October 31st, at Grand Pacific hotel, Dr. McPherson as chaplain. Mr. Marvin Hughitt was president, and the spokesmen for the visitors were such men as Alpheus Hardy, Hon. John W. Candler of Boston, M. C. Ingalls and George H. Burrows of Cincinnati, Col. Leighton and Gov. Stannard of St. Louis.

Upon the cordial invitation of Frederick Layton, Esq., the club visited the Layton Art Galleries in Milwaukee on Thursday, June 1st, 1893, Mr. Layton providing a special train to convey the party from Chicago and return.

From October 22 to 25, 1895, Chicago, under the presidency of Henry W. King, visited St. Louis with the Boston and Cincinnati clubs, and received every attention that kind and considerate hosts could show.

In 1897, while Mr. Glessner was its president, the Chicago club, together with the Boston and St. Louis clubs, spent Thursday and Friday, May 26



and 27, in Cincinnati, as guests of the Commercial Club of that city, and were entertained by drives about the city and its beautiful environs, by a sail on the Ohio river, luncheons at private houses, and a Kentucky burgoo on the race-track grounds of the Latonia jockey club, the burgoo being a typical and very toothsome Kentucky dish, cooked in plain sight in an iron pot swinging over a rustic fire, by a negro cook, and eaten boiling hot from new tin cups with pewter spoons, as the fashion is with the genuine burgoo. The visit was completed by the grand reception and banquet of the club at Dalvay, the home of Mr. Alexander McDonald at Clifton. It is rare indeed that any private residence can be found with rooms commodious enough to entertain so large a company and in such faultless style, and this was a unique and most delightful experience. It was on this occasion, during the sail on the river, that the Cincinnati club presented to the Chicago club the beautiful Fellowship Cup now deposited in the Art Institute, and other cups, each entirely different, to the Boston and St. Louis clubs. These cups are about fourteen inches high, and bear the inscription, "In commemoration of the visit of the Commercial Clubs of Boston, Chicago and St. Louis to the Commercial Club of Cincinnati, May 27, 1897."

In June, 1900, the Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati clubs visited Boston, on the invitation of the Boston club, and were treated in the most hospitable manner, unusual in that there was no hint of commerce permitted in the entertainment. Excur-

sions by coaches to Concord and Lexington and historic spots, luncheons and receptions at the homes of Boston members, a sail down the bay to Gloucester and return by train, with luncheon at Essex Club, and finally the two days of most charming spring weather closed with the dinner of grand cheer and warm friendship at Algonquin Club. This did not end until the wee sma' hours, and a delegation of the Boston Club said goodby as their Chicago visitors took their special train at 2 a. m. for a journey to the White Hills of New Hampshire and a day's visit with one of their members at his country home. The party left the train at North Woodstock and sent it back via Plymouth to Littleton, ninety miles, while they drove twenty miles by coach up the Pemigewasset valley to Profile House, and through Franconia village to Mr. Glessner's farm. President Chalmers and Secretary Janes and Treasurer Macfarland had made perfect arrangements for transportation and attendance and every comfort on this trip.

The ever-to-be-remembered trip to the Pacific coast took the place of the March meeting in 1901. Its history was written immediately afterwards. There is no possibility of doing justice to it in the space at command here. It was a continual succession of delights, day by day and hour by hour, for three weeks. The club was the guest of two of its members, Mr. Ripley of the Santa Fe and Mr. Hughitt of the Northwestern railroads, and the presidents of connecting roads, in a trip in special train of new cars across the continent and

up and down the Pacific coast, with entertainments at prominent and beautiful places, a delightful luncheon from Otho Sprague at Pasadena, banquets at Los Angeles and San Francisco and Portland and Seattle and Salt Lake and Denver, the reception and tea at the Bartlett home in Phoenix, and the cowboy exhibition for its edification while there, the visit to the wonderful works of Mr. William T. Baker at Snoqualmie Falls, and to the Grand Canyon, and every attention and comfort that the heart of man could wish or his digestive economy assimilate—the sleeping coaches, the dining car, the buffet, the stenographer and the barber and the attendants, the arrangements for telegraph and mail communication, the attentions of the railroad superintendents, who joined the train, each with his own car, to pilot it over his division, the side trips and stops to view the Mission ruins or anything that any man desired—not one single thing was left undone or unprovided. There never was such a trip before and never can be again. And having in all this the company of friends representing the Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis organizations and another genial companion in the person of Dr. E. C. Dudley, the surgeon, made the enjoyment more and more. Mr. William A. Fuller was president, and twenty-eight members, with two delegates each from Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis made up the party.

In 1903 the club again enjoyed the hospitality of the St. Louis club, forty-two members partici-



pating, and joined in hearty praise of the splendid preparations for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. On nearly all of these trips the clubs have traveled by special train for each club, or possibly one train for two clubs, and it has been customary at joint meetings for each member to wear in the lapel of his coat a small gold button with the monogram "C. C." enameled in colors—for Boston blue, Cincinnati yellow, St. Louis white and Chicago red.

Another memorable trip was in January and February of 1904, when the club spent several weeks in traveling over Cuba, having as guests delegates from Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis, when the resources of the Island, its people and institutions and products and weather were open for its inspection with the greatest comfort to all.

May 25th and 26th, 1905, the Cincinnati club was host of the other three at the celebration in its home city of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its foundation.

The latest of these excursions was the joint venture of the four kindred clubs—Cincinnati, St. Louis, Boston and Chicago—in the journey to Panama, from February 18th to March 14th, 1907, in which eighty-seven members and some others participated, and where the stupendous work of the Panama Canal Commission was the main objective. The perfect arrangement of steamer and trains and hotels, all of which has been told before, made delightful what otherwise might have been found laborious and trying.



The purpose, and what has proved the result of this trip, was well stated in the special message of President Roosevelt to Congress, December 17th, 1906:

“I am informed that representatives of the Commercial Clubs of four cities—Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis—the membership in which includes many of the leading business men of those cities, expect to visit the Isthmus for the purpose of examining the work of construction of the canal. I am glad to hear it, and I shall direct that every facility be given them to see all that is to be seen in the work which the government is doing. Such interest as a visit like this would indicate will have a good effect upon the men who are doing the work on the one hand, while on the other hand it will offer as witnesses of the exact conditions men whose experience as business men and whose impartiality will make the result of their observations of value to the country as a whole.”

The last meeting of this history was the closed meeting of Saturday evening, April 10, 1909, at 1800 Prairie Avenue, the residence of Mr. John J. Glessner, attended by sixty-three club members.

Reference should be made to the deceased members. The Chicago Commercial Club was made up of young men. The average age of its members in the first fifteen or twenty years was probably much less than that of the Boston club. After Boston's list of its dead had become longer than its living roll, the Chicago list still was relatively short. But this is all too long now, and one scans with sorrow and deep regret the names of those who have finished their work and can meet here no more.

The first member of the club to pass away was Solomon A. Smith, who died in November, 1879; then followed Edward S. Stickney, in March, 1880; James M. Walker and R. C. Meldrum and George Armour in 1881, John C. Coonley in 1882, and the final farewells have been said to some member in almost every year since then. Appropriate records have been made in all cases, but only those concerning Secretaries Clarke and Janes are reproduced here.

At the special meeting at the Grand Pacific hotel, April 7, 1887, the following resolutions were presented:

"A telegraphic message from Thomasville, Ga., brings to us the sad news of the death of George C. Clarke, and the air is full of farewells to the dying and of mournings for the dead. Each and every member of the Commercial Club has lost a valued friend, and, assembled as we are here today, inspired by personal sorrow to offer a tribute of respect, we not only do honor to his memory, but, in doing so, honor ourselves.

"George C. Clarke was more than an average man, and today, at the end of a busy life, he can be

remembered as honest, truthful and upright, and he goes forth to his burial honored, loved and praised by all.

“As a member of this club, his record is engraven upon each of our hearts. Always loyal and true, he worked wisely and successfully to advance its prosperity, from the day of its organization to the end of his life.

“As a business man he was unselfish and generous, his word always stood everywhere for truth itself, and his associates in business bear willing and ready testimony to his wise and successful administration of the affairs that were gladly intrusted to his care.

“As a citizen he had clean hands and a clear conscience, and in all the many and varied duties that he was called upon to perform, his aims were always high and intended to advance the prosperity and welfare, not only of the institutions with which he was connected, but also of the city of his adoption. As a husband and father he was devotion itself, and the altar of his home sanctuary was never without burning coals.

“George C. Clarke had a profound regard for the religion he professed, and walking with his feet toward Calvary, and his eyes resting lovingly on the face of the Master, he impressed all as a worthy representative of the christian gentleman.

“He has left us all the record of a life well spent, full of ‘that best portion of a good man’s life, his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love,’ a name honored for integrity and personal worth. He carried himself cheerfully and buoyantly, and even when all of us looked with sorrow on ‘the shadow of those features fair and thin,’ he cheered the heart of every one by his manly courage in his struggle for life. ‘Lie lightly on his ashes, gentle earth, for on his grave rains many a tear.’ ”

Boston, April 20th, 1887.

MR. JOHN J. JANES,  
Sec'y Commercial Club,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—

Your letter addressed to me, announcing the death of your honored member, Mr. George C. Clarke, was read before the Commercial Club of Boston at its last meeting, on Saturday the 16th inst., and it occasioned profound regret.

We feel, in the death of Mr. Clarke, the loss of a true friend. We well remember his thoughtful attention to each of our members when the club visited Chicago, and how much he contributed to our pleasure on that occasion. The depth of our esteem and friendship for him was the natural response to his nobility of character. We realize how much he contributed to the success of your club, both by his practical work, his wise counsel, and by the type of his manhood illustrated in his daily life. Our clubs were honored by his life and character, and may well treasure as priceless the example of his well spent life. We tender our sympathy with you in your loss, share with you the sorrow his death occasions, and unite in paying our tribute of respect to his memory.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE O. CARPENTER,  
Sec'y Commercial Club.



A special meeting of the Commercial Club was held in the library room of the Chicago Club, Friday, August 23, 1901, to take appropriate action on the death of its secretary, Mr. John James Janes, when the following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

“Again has the Commercial Club assembled to record its tribute to the memory of a departed member, this time John James Janes, its secretary. And again we are made to realize the inadequacy of human speech when used to express the sentiments of the heart.

“Mr. Janes was born in Lansingburgh, New York, January 10, 1833. He died at the Calumet Club in Chicago, August 19, 1901. He came to Chicago in 1853, a youth of twenty years, since which time he was always a prominent and active factor in the social and business life of the city. After his arrival in Chicago, he was first a book-keeper for one of the then prominent mercantile houses of the city, but soon after engaged in the insurance business in which he continued to the time of his death, for most of the time as a member of the firm of Moore & Janes. To this chosen vocation he devoted himself with great fidelity and success, was mainly instrumental in the organization of the Insurance Patrol and in effecting many improvements and reforms valuable to the interests he specially represented and to the property interests of the city. No one ever possessed more fully than he the confidence of officers and managers whose interests he represented. He was one of the organizers, and for many years the secretary of the Chicago Club. He was also active in the organization of our Commercial Club, was a member from its beginning, and for the last fifteen years, and at the

time of his death, its secretary. How efficient he was in that position all members can testify, and especially those who have been officers of the Club, and whose duties were made light and pleasant by his unwearying and painstaking efforts.

"Having for the past several years no immediate family of his own, he seemed to regard the Commercial Club as his family and its members as not merely his friends whom he esteemed, but as his brothers whom he loved. He was also a member of the Calumet Club, at whose house he died, was an active and consistent member of Grace Episcopal Church of Chicago, and took an active interest and bore a willing part in all matters of public concern.

"He was a true man in every relation of life; his integrity was never doubted, his sincerity never questioned. He never harbored an unworthy motive and everything mean shrank from his presence. Honest, sincere, patient, forbearing, considerate and kind, he enjoyed, as few do, the affectionate regard of his fellows. His personality was a loadstone which drew to him the love and confidence of all who came into his presence. The charm was the man, undefinable, but felt. Shut out largely by an infirmity of hearing from conversation with his friends, this infirmity seemed to exclude only the harsher sounds of the world, and every gentle sentiment found a way to his heart. He was never deaf to the cry of the unfortunate, and to such his generous nature always gave response. Unselfishness seemed his chief characteristic, and solicitude for others found expression even in the delirium of his dying hours.

"His body is now at rest in Woodlawn cemetery, New York, by the side of the beloved wife who preceded him there a few years. But the influence of a good man's life never dies, and that of John James

Janes will always abide with us as a potent and uplifting inspiration.

"A christian gentleman, a true friend, a genial comrade, the Commercial Club hereby makes permanent record of its appreciation of his worth and of its sorrow for his death.

"EUGENE CARY,  
"MARVIN HUGHITT,  
"HENRY MACFARLAND,  
Committee."

General Sheridan had the warm friendship of every member of the Commercial Club and his presence at the meetings always was welcome. In his death each member felt a personal loss.

At the regular meeting at Kinsley's, October 27, 1888, action was taken in the following resolutions, adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

"Whereas, the death of General Phillip H. Sheridan has filled the heart of every member of this club with a feeling of profound sorrow, and,

"Whereas, while fully sharing the grief experienced by the American people at the loss of this illustrious patriot and commander, we also are enduring a keen sense of personal bereavement in the loss of one whom we held in grateful friendship, and who, in his life time, we so delighted to honor; therefore,

"Resolved, that the Commercial Club will ever revere the memory of General Sheridan, and not alone for his noble qualities as a man and a friend, and his undying record as a soldier, great in the design and irresistible in the execution of all the arts of war, but equally and with peculiar emotion, for his services to the people of our own city in its mem-



orable hour of need and peril; and that we desire to reinscribe upon the record of this club, that when a calamity overtook Chicago which for a time absorbed the interest of nations; when the city was in flames; when common judgment was at fault, and in our awe and desolation we sought a leader, then the loyal and heroic qualities of General Sheridan came into renewed prominence, for our salvation. He placed himself at our head with a presence that signified order, law, safety, and mutual devotion. His cool brain, undaunted courage and electric action not only aided in staying the progress of the fire, but palliated the suffering which it caused, and, without doubt, averted the calamities of lawlessness and crime which are wont to follow upon civic disaster. Nor can Chicago forget that twice again, in 1874 and 1877, this beloved chieftain appeared as the protector of her life and treasure. Thrice he deserved well of the city; and so, with pride and sorrow, and increasing veneration, we perpetuate our tribute to his name and fame. Others will do, some have already done, scanty justice to Sheridan's memory—ours the simple duty to place upon our record book this offering of affection and loving remembrance of a brave soldier and a gentle heart.

“JOHN W. DOANE,  
“MARSHALL FIELD,  
“WILLIAM E. STRONG,  
Committee.”



It is proper to record here that this club expressed officially its sympathy when Hon. Mahlon D. Spaulding, charter member of the Boston Commercial Club, died at his home, November 3, 1888. He was among the first to respond after Chicago's fire, and to extend help and credit and words of cheer to stricken friends and merchants in Chicago, and he always maintained his interest and warm friendship for the people of this city and for the Chicago Commercial Club. He was one of the Boston merchants whose visit to this city in 1877 was the inspiration for the birth of the Chicago Commercial Club.

The property of the club consists chiefly of memories and aspirations—not taxable, but of great value—memories of accomplishments, memories of things nobly striven for if not entirely accomplished, memories of hospitalities and friendships—and aspirations after good works still to be accomplished. The things the club has bought have been given away freely and joyously for the good they might do, but there are two bits of property that are cherished for themselves and their givers and the sentiments they conveyed—the original manuscript poem of Dr. Holmes, given to President Doane for this club by the poet himself on behalf of the Boston club, on the occasion of the first visit of the Chicago organization, and which was framed in pieces of the historic elm that was blown down in Boston Common shortly before this visit, and the beautiful Fellowship Cup of Rookwood pottery given by the Cincinnati club as an incident

of their royal hospitality in May, 1897. The club being homeless, these cherished treasures are deposited with the Art Institute for safekeeping.\*

NEW YORK, January 10, 1898.

J. J. GLESSNER, Esq.,

President, Commercial Club, Chicago, Ill.

*My dear Mr. Glessner:—*

I am in receipt of your letter of January 7th. I am glad to know that the Commercial Club is going to prepare a proper place for the poem of Oliver Wendell Holmes, the manuscript of which was delivered to me by his own hands. The Executive Committee of the Boston Club had it framed with a piece of the old elm tree which stood in Boston so many years and the genuineness of which was certified to by Mayor Cobb. This I have regarded as the only tangible asset the Commercial Club ever had since its origin, and an offer of \$2,500 was made for it while Mr. Holmes was living. If it were for sale now it ought to bring much more.

It is hanging in my office for want of a better place at present, and is subject to the order of the Executive Committee of the Commercial Club at any moment.

I have been unavoidably detained in New York for a long time but now expect to return by the 20th inst. If you will wait until then I will hand it to you, or, if you will present this letter at my office you can get it before that time.

Trusting to be able to attend the next meeting of the club, I beg to remain,

Yours very sincerely,

J. W. DOANE.

---

\*Note: These articles are to be transferred to the care of the Chicago Historical Society.

CHICAGO, January 29, 1898.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO.

*Gentlemen:*—On behalf of the Commercial Club of Chicago, I tender to you the loan of the unique and beautiful Fellowship Cup, the production of the Rookwood Pottery, presented to this Club by the Commercial Club of Cincinnati as a memento of our visit to them in May, 1897; also the original manuscript poem of Oliver Wendell Holmes, read by the author at the joint meeting of the clubs, and presented to us by the Boston Commercial Club on the occasion of our visit to them in June, 1879, which manuscript is now framed in a piece of the historic elm tree that stood for so many years on Boston Common, and which was blown down in 1876.

These articles have very tender associations for the members of the Commercial Club, and the Club therefore desires to retain its title to them, but tenders them to you as a loan, confident that they will be properly cared for and preserved in your hands, and at the same time be placed where they may give pleasure to more people than if retained by this Club. I have the honor to be, gentlemen

Very respectfully yours,

J. J. GLESSNER,  
President Commercial Club of Chicago.

CHICAGO, January 31, 1898.

JOHN J. GLESSNER, ESQ.,

President, Commercial Club, Chicago.

*Dear Sir:*—

We have received with much pleasure your letter of January 29, with the accompanying loan of the unique and beautiful Fellowship Cup, the pro-

duction of the Rookwood Pottery, which was presented to the Commercial Club of Chicago by the Commercial Club of Cincinnati as a memento of their visit to Cincinnati in May, 1897; also the original manuscript poem of Oliver Wendell Holmes, framed in a piece of the historic elm tree that stood for so many years on Boston Common.

The Art Institute is deeply indebted to the Commercial Club for these valuable loans which have already been installed in our collection, and occupy a good position in our galleries.

A more formal acknowledgment will be made after the next meeting of our Board of Trustees.

We have the honor to be

Very respectfully yours,

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO,

By N. H. CARPENTER,

Secretary.

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO.

July 14, 1904.

MR. ROLLIN A. KEYES,

Secretary, Commercial Club.

*Dear Sir:—*

There are two objects belonging to the Commercial Club in the possession of the Art Institute: One a framed manuscript of a poem by Oliver Wendell Holmes, the other a fellowship cup of Rookwood pottery. The poem is upon the wall of an exhibition room, and the cup in the store-room. They were delivered to us by Mr. Glessner in 1898. We are quite willing to continue to care for them, but it is proper you should know where they are.

Yours very truly,

THE ART INSTITUTE,

W. M. R. FRENCH,

Director.



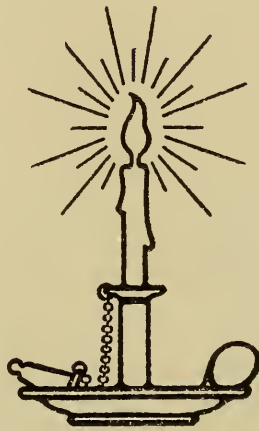
It has been customary at the beginning of the year—not every year, but frequently—to hold a closed meeting, without any guests, to take a look backward at what has been done and forward at what should be done; to take account of stock, as it were, of the club, and its activities, and what it stands for.

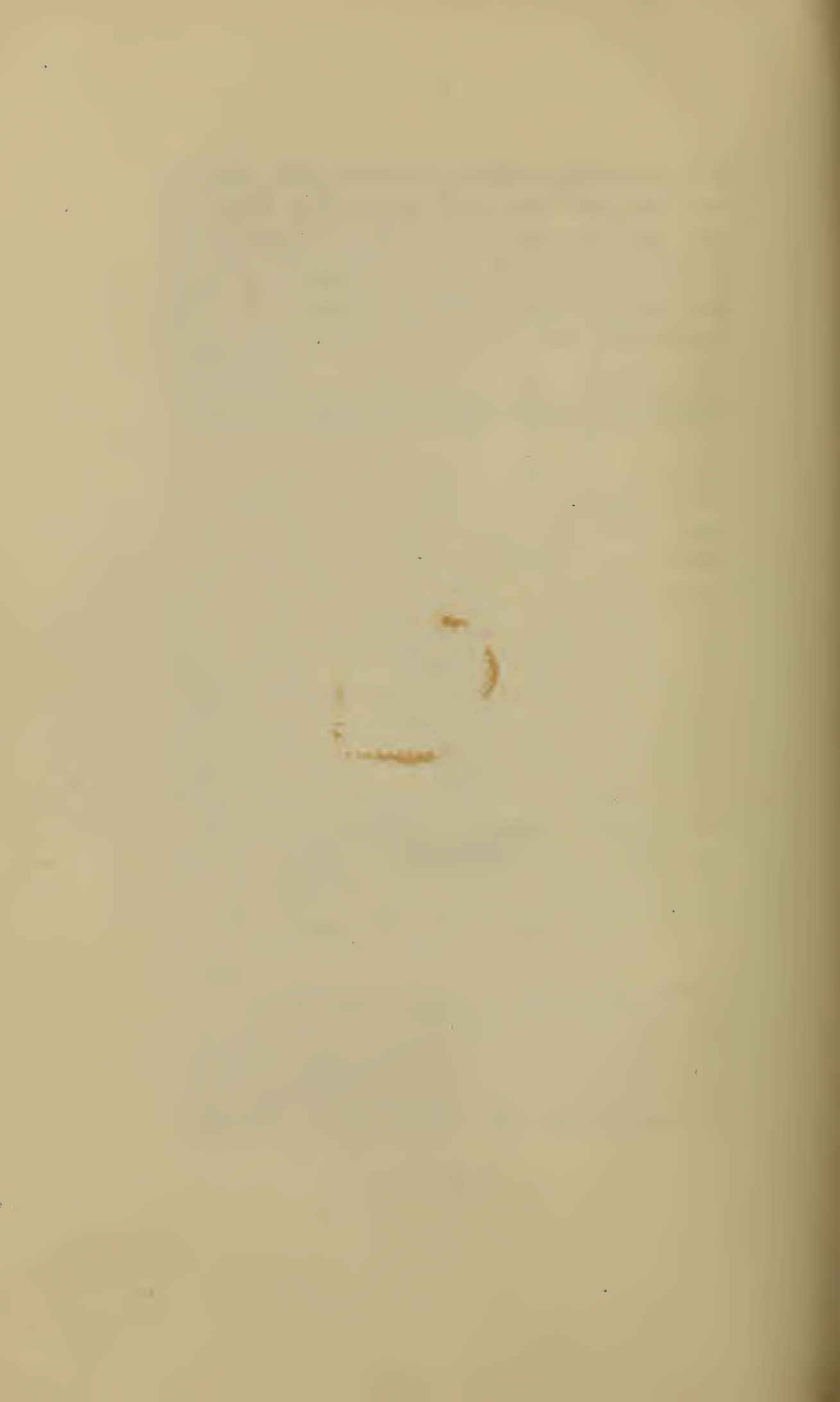
At the meeting of December 30, 1899, the question as it appeared to Mr. Elbridge G. Keith was: “How does the world regard us? Speakers come before us and eulogize us as members and as a club. They tell us that around this board sit men who have made Chicago, and we go away feeling better than words can express. It is true that we have influence, ability, money, and energy; but, having these, also much is required of us. We must not forget that we owe to Chicago all that we are; therefore to Chicago we should turn our efforts in the line of helping to make it a better, a cleaner, a more honest and well governed city.”

In the following June, at the joint meeting of the four kindred clubs in Boston, Mr. Lucius Tuttle used these forceful words: “No community, no club, and no enterprise can live upon a glorious record.”

If this club is to retain its commanding position in the city, if it is to continue to wield the same powerful influence as in the past, it must keep active and strong. It must keep up its energy and enterprise, it must speak out boldly against the

wrong and strive manfully for the right. Will it? Has the game been worth the candle? Will the next thirty-two years of its work be as potent for good as the thirty-two that have passed? If there were doubts at first, time has proceeded to full justification of the founders, and should the question be put now, there is no present member of the Commercial Club but will be quick with his answer.





FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



LEVI Z. LEITER  
1878



JOHN W. DOANE  
1879-80



ORRIN W. POTTER  
1881

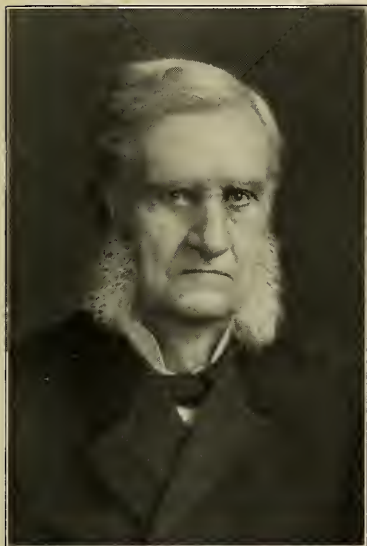


ALBERT A. SPRAGUE  
1882





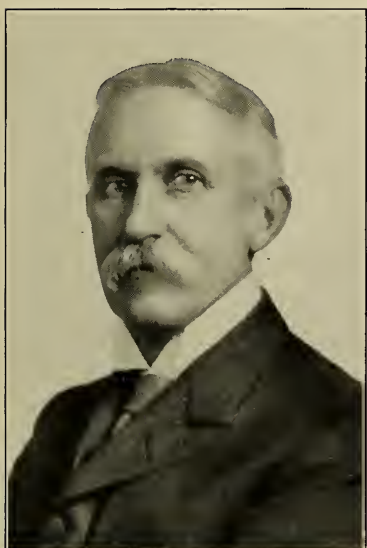
FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



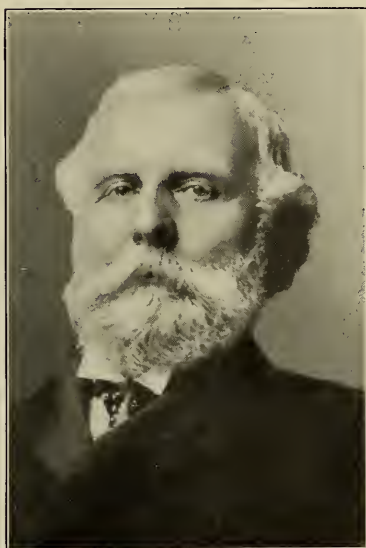
AUGUSTUS A. CARPENTER  
1883



JOHN M. CLARK  
1884



FRANKLIN MacVEAGH  
1885



LYMAN J. GAGE  
1886







FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



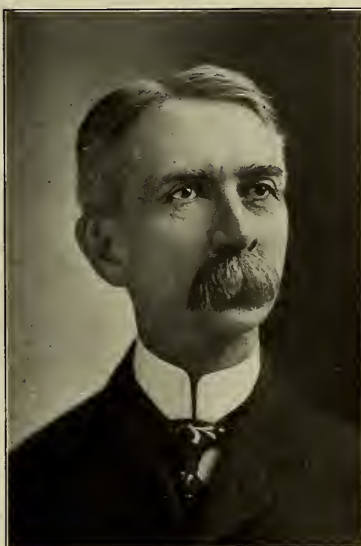
ADOLPHUS C. BARTLETT  
1887



ELIPHALET W. BLATCHFORD  
1888



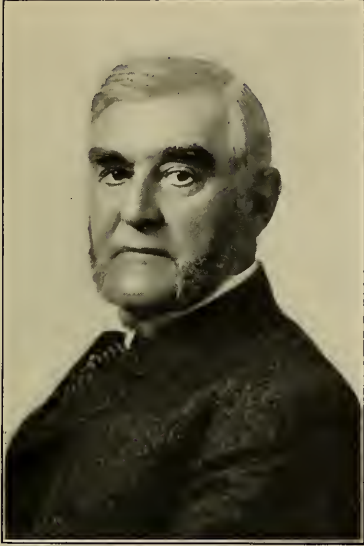
CHARLES L. HUTCHINSON  
1889



ELBRIDGE G. KEITH  
1890



FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



MARVIN HUGHITT  
1891



TURLINGTON W. HARVEY  
1892



ALEXANDER C. McCLURG  
1893



WILLIAM T. BAKER  
1894

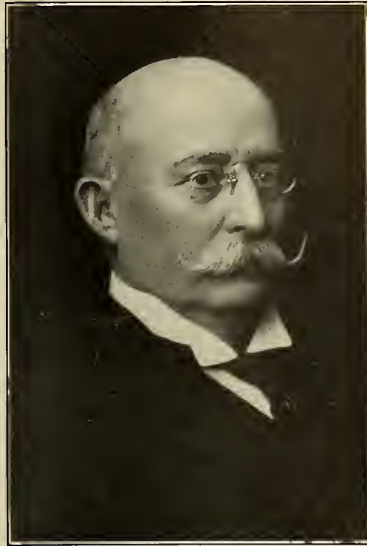




FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



HENRY W. KING  
1895



FRANCIS B. PEABODY  
1896



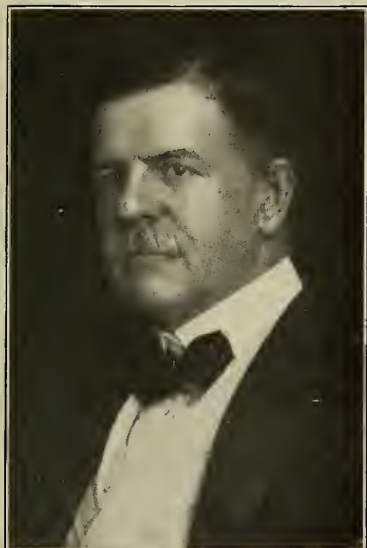
JOHN J. GLESSNER  
1897



EUGENE CARY  
1898



FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



CYRUS H. McCORMICK  
1899



WILLIAM J. CHALMERS  
1900



WILLIAM A. FULLER  
1901



MARTIN A. RYERSON  
1903





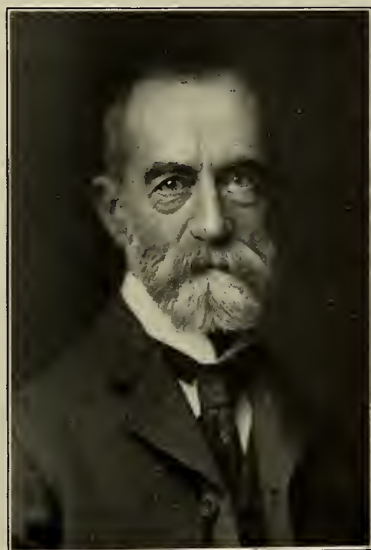
FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB



J. HARLEY BRADLEY  
1904



EDWARD B. BUTLER  
1905



GEORGE E. ADAMS  
1906



FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE MERCHANTS CLUB



HARRY G. SELFRIDGE  
1898



EDGAR A. BANCROFT  
1899



HERMON B. BUTLER  
1900



RICHARD M. BISSELL  
1901





FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE MERCHANTS CLUB



ALEXANDER A. McCORMICK  
1902



WALTER H. WILSON  
1903



ALFRED L. BAKER  
1904



CHARLES H. WACKER  
1905



## FORMER PRESIDENTS



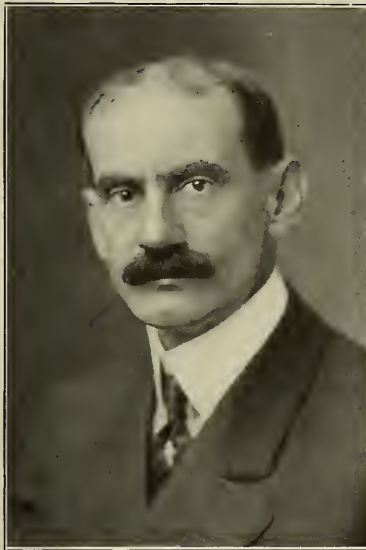
CHARLES DYER NORTON  
Merchants Club, 1906



JOHN V. FARWELL  
Merchants Club, 1897  
Commercial Club, 1907



ROLLIN A. KEYES  
Commercial Club, 1908



THEODORE W. ROBINSON  
Commercial Club, 1909





## ORGANIZATION



OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES *of* THE  
COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO.

1909-1910.

*President* . . . . . Theodore W. Robinson  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Bernard E. Sunny  
*Secretary* . . . . . Homer A. Stillwell  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles G. Dawes

*Executive Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Homer A. Stillwell,  
Bernard E. Sunny, Charles G. Dawes,  
Rollin A. Keyes, John J. Glessner,  
Charles L. Strobel, \*Frederick Greeley,  
James B. Forgan, †Cyrus H. McCormick,  
William J. Chalmers.

*Reception Committee.*

Charles L. Strobel, Chairman.  
William L. Brown, Chauncey Keep,  
Alfred Cowles, A. A. Sprague II.

*Committee on Publication.*

John W. Scott, Chairman.  
Nelson P. Bigelow, Herman H. Kohlsaat.

*Educational Committee.*

Clayton Mark, Chairman.  
Frank H. Armstrong, David R. Forgan,  
Alfred L. Baker, John R. Morron,  
Edward F. Carry, Frederic W. Upham.

\* Resigned.  
†To fill unexpired term.

*Committee on Public Health.*

Frank B. Noyes, Chairman.  
J. Ogden Armour, Ernest A. Hamill,  
Granger Farwell, Arthur Meeker.

*Committee on Lake Bluff Naval Training Station.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.  
Alfred L. Baker, John R. Morron,  
Harold F. McCormick, Frederic W. Upham.

*Committee on Small Parks and Playgrounds.*

Clarence Buckingham, Chairman.  
Allen B. Pond.

*Committee on Glenwood School.*

Edward B. Butler, Chairman.

*Committee on St. Charles School.*

Stanley Field, Chairman.  
Benjamin Carpenter.

*Committee on Plan of Chicago.*

Edward B. Butler, Chairman.  
John W. Scott, Vice-Chairman.  
Charles G. Dawes, Harold F. McCormick,  
Charles H. Hulburd, Charles L. Strobel,  
Emerson B. Tuttle.

1908-1909

*President* . . . . . Rollin A. Keyes  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Albert J. Earling  
*Secretary* . . . . . John W. Scott  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Edwin G. Foreman



*Executive Committee.*

Rollin A. Keyes,	Albert J. Earling,
John W. Scott,	Edwin G. Foreman,
John V. Farwell, Jr.,	John G. Shedd,
Frank H. Jones,	Theodore W. Robinson,
John J. Glessner,	Frederick Greeley.

*Reception Committee.*

Frank H. Jones, Chairman.

Adolphus C. Bartlett,	Stanley Field,
John W. G. Cofran,	Emerson B. Tuttle.

*Educational Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Chairman.

Edward B. Butler,	Bernard E. Sunny,
Edward F. Carry,	Frederic W. Upham,
Clayton Mark,	Charles H. Wacker.

*Committee on Public Health.*

Frank B. Noyes, Chairman.

J. Ogden Armour,	John J. Glessner,
John V. Farwell, Jr.,	Harold F. McCormick,
Alexander H. Revell.	

*Committee on Small Parks and Playgrounds.*

Frederick Greeley, Chairman.

Clarence Buckingham,	Allen B. Pond.
----------------------	----------------

*Committee on Lake Bluff Naval Training Station.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.

Alfred L. Baker,	John R. Morron,
Harold F. McCormick,	Frederic W. Upham.

*Committee on Glenwood School.*

Edward B. Butler, Chairman.

*Committee on St. Charles School.*

Stanley Field, Chairman.

Benjamin Carpenter.

*Committee on State Pawnors' Society.*

John V. Farwell, Jr., Chairman.

*Committee on Plan of Chicago.*

*General Committee.*

<i>Chairman</i>	. . . . .	Charles D. Norton
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	. . . . .	Charles H. Wacker
<i>Secretary</i>	. . . . .	Frederic A. Delano
<i>Treasurer</i>	. . . . .	Walter H. Wilson
Adolphus C. Bartlett,		Edward B. Butler,
Clyde M. Carr,		Charles L. Hutchinson,
John V. Farwell, Jr.,		Rollin A. Keyes,
Joy Morton,		Charles H. Thorne.

*Committee on Lake Parks.*

Edward B. Butler, Chairman.

Edgar A. Bancroft,	John V. Farwell, Jr.,
William L. Brown,	Harold F. McCormick,
Charles G. Dawes,	John J. Mitchell.

*Committee on Railway Terminals.*

Joy Morton, Chairman.

Adolphus C. Bartlett,	Martin A. Ryerson,
Franklin MacVeagh,	John G. Shedd,
Cyrus H. McCormick,	Albert A. Sprague.

*Committee on Streets and Boulevards.*

Clyde M. Carr, Chairman.

Charles H. Conover,      Albert A. Sprague II,  
Thomas E. Donnelley,    Frederic W. Upham,  
James L. Houghteling,   Charles H. Wacker,

*Committee on Interurban Roadways.*

Charles H. Thorne, Chairman.

Benjamin Carpenter,      Homer A. Stillwell,  
Edward F. Carry,          Charles L. Strobel.

*Committee on Finance.*

Adolphus C. Bartlett, Chairman.

Charles G. Dawes,          Albert A. Sprague,  
Charles L. Hutchinson,    Walter H. Wilson.

1907-1908

*President* . . . . . John V. Farwell, Jr.  
*Vice-President* . . . . . John R. Morron  
*Secretary* . . . . . John W. Scott  
*Treasurer* . . . . . David R. Forgan

*Executive Committee.*

John V. Farwell, Jr.,      George E. Adams,  
John R. Morron,          Clyde M. Carr,  
John W. Scott,            Charles H. Wacker,  
David R. Forgan,          Louis F. Swift,  
John G. Shedd,            Theodore W. Robinson.

*Reception Committee.*

Charles H. Wacker, Chairman.

Benjamin Carpenter,      Frank H. Jones,  
Leslie Carter,              Charles L. Strobel.

*Educational Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Chairman.  
Thomas E. Donnelley, Clayton Mark,  
Granger Farwell, Bernard E. Sunny.

*Committee on Lake Bluff Naval Training Station.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.  
Alfred L. Baker, John R. Morron,  
Harold F. McCormick, Frederic W. Upham.

*Committee on Public Health.*

Frank B. Noyes, Chairman.  
J. Ogden Armour, Harold F. McCormick,  
John J. Glessner, Alexander H. Revell.

*Committee on Small Parks and Playgrounds.*

Frederick Greeley, Chairman.  
Clarence Buckingham, Allen B. Pond.

*Committee on Building of Comfort Stations.*

Edwin G. Foreman, Chairman.  
Charles D. Norton.

*Committee on Plan of Chicago.*

*General Committee.*

Chairman . . . . . Charles D. Norton  
Vice-Chairman . . . . . Charles H. Wacker  
Secretary . . . . . Frederic A. Delano  
Treasurer . . . . . Walter H. Wilson  
Adolphus C. Bartlett.  
Edward B. Butler, John V. Farwell, Jr.,  
Clyde M. Carr, Joy Morton,  
Charles H. Thorne.



*Committee on Lake Front.*

Edward B. Butler, Chairman.

Leslie Carter, John V. Farwell, Jr.,  
Charles G. Dawes, Victor F. Lawson,  
Harold F. McCormick.

*Committee on Railway Terminals.*

Joy Morton, Chairman.

Adolphus C. Bartlett, Franklin MacVeagh,  
William J. Chalmers, Cyrus H. McCormick,  
Charles H. Hulburd, Martin A. Ryerson,  
Chauncey Keep, John G. Shedd,  
Albert A. Sprague.

*Committee on Boulevard to Connect  
North and South Sides.*

Clyde M. Carr, Chairman.

Charles H. Conover, Charles H. Thorne,  
James L. Houghteling, Frederic W. Upham,  
A. A. Sprague II, Charles H. Wacker.

*Committee on Interurban Roadways.*

Charles H. Thorne, Chairman.

Enos M. Barton, Frederick Greeley.

*Committee on Finance.*

Adolphus C. Bartlett, Chairman.

Charles G. Dawes, Albert A. Sprague,  
Charles L. Hutchinson, Walter H. Wilson.

# OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

*From the Year of Establishment*

1878.

*President* . . . . . Levi Z. Leiter  
*Vice-President* . . . . . John W. Doane  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Murry Nelson  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

## *Executive Committee.*

Anson Stager,                      Edson Keith,  
William T. Baker.

1879.

*President* . . . . . John W. Doane  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Anson Stager  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Murry Nelson  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

## *Executive Committee.*

Edson Keith,                      Otho S. A. Sprague,  
James W. Oakley.

1880.

*President* . . . . . John W. Doane  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Nathaniel K. Fairbank  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Murry Nelson  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

## *Executive Committee.*

Henry J. Macfarland,      Franklin MacVeagh,  
Augustus A. Carpenter.

1881.

*President* . . . . . Orrin W. Potter  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Albert A. Sprague  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Murry Nelson  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

*Executive Committee.*

Henry J. Macfarland,          John M. Clark,  
James H. Walker.

1882.

*President* . . . . . Albert A. Sprague  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Murry Nelson  
*Treasurer* . . . . . William T. Baker  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

*Executive Committee.*

George C. Walker,          Elbridge G. Keith,  
William A. Fuller.

1883.

*President* . . . . . Augustus A. Carpenter  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Marvin Hughitt  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Anthony F. Seeberger  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

*Executive Committee.*

John Crerar,          Richard T. Crane,  
Erskine M. Phelps.

1884.

*President* . . . . . John M. Clark  
*Vice-President* . . . . . George M. Pullman  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Anthony F. Seeberger  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

*Executive Committee.*

Byron P. Moulton,      Adolphus C. Bartlett,  
John J. Janes.

1885.

*President* . . . . . Franklin MacVeagh  
*Vice-President* . . . . . George M. Pullman  
*Treasurer* . . . . . John B. Drake  
*Secretary* . . . . . George C. Clarke

*Executive Committee.*

John DeKoven,      Lyman J. Gage,  
Thomas Murdoch.

1886.

*President* . . . . . Lyman J. Gage  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Adolphus C. Bartlett  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Louis Wampold  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Alexander C. McClurg,      Charles Fargo,  
Cyrus H. McCormick.



1887.

*President* . . . . . Adolphus C. Bartlett  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Eliphalet W. Blatchford  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles L. Hutchinson  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Marshall Field,                  Otho S. A. Sprague,  
J. Harley Bradley.

1888.

*President* . . . . . Eliphalet W. Blatchford  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Charles L. Hutchinson  
*Treasurer* . . . . . William Munro  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Charles B. Holmes,    James L. Houghteling,  
William E. Strong.

1889.

*President* . . . . . Charles L. Hutchinson  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Elbridge G. Keith  
*Treasurer* . . . . . William Munro  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Henry H. Porter,                  William G. Hibbard,  
William E. Strong.

1890.

*President* . . . . . Elbridge G. Keith  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Marvin Hughitt  
*Treasurer* . . . . . William Munro  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Philip D. Armour,      Turlington W. Harvey,  
John J. Glessner.

1891.

*President* . . . . . Marvin Hughitt  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Turlington W. Harvey  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Harlow N. Higinbotham  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Edward E. Ayer,                      Eugene Cary,  
Martin A. Ryerson.

1892.

*President* . . . . . Turlington W. Harvey  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Alexander C. McClurg  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Henry W. King,                      Norman B. Ream,  
William H. Rand.

1893.

*President* . . . . . Alexander C. McClurg  
*Vice-President* . . . . . William T. Baker  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Franklin H. Head,                  Christoph Hotz,  
Francis B. Peabody.

1894.

*President* . . . . . William T. Baker  
*Vice-President* . . . . . John B. Drake  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Francis B. Peabody,              Otho S. A. Sprague,  
Henry B. Stone.

1895.

*President* . . . . . Henry W. King  
*Vice-President* . . . . . George C. Walker  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Erschine M. Phelps,              Louis Wampold,  
Robert A. Waller.

1896.

*President* . . . . . Francis B. Peabody  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Henry B. Stone  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Charles B. Farwell,          Melville E. Stone,  
William J. Chalmers.

1897.

*President* . . . . . John J. Glessner  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Eugene Cary  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

William A. Fuller,          Cyrus H. McCormick,  
J. Harley Bradley.

1898.

*President* . . . . . Eugene Cary  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Cyrus H. McCormick  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

William A. Fuller,          John M. Clark,  
Robert C. Clowry.



1899.

<i>President</i>	Cyrus H. McCormick
<i>Vice-President</i>	H. N. Higinbotham
<i>Treasurer</i>	Henry J. Macfarland
<i>Secretary</i>	John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Elbridge G. Keith,                      Albert A. Sprague,  
H. H. Kohlsaat.

1900.

*President* . . . . . William J. Chalmers  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Martin A. Ryerson  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

Marshall Field,                      Edward B. Butler,  
David B. Jones.

1901.

*President* . . . . . William A. Fuller  
*Vice-President* . . . . . David B. Jones  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Henry J. Macfarland  
*Secretary* . . . . . John J. Janes

*Executive Committee.*

James L. Houghteling, Edward P. Ripley,  
Rollin A. Keyes.

1902.

*President* . . . . . David B. Jones  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Edward E. Ayer  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles F. Kimball  
*Secretary* . . . . . Rollin A. Keyes

*Executive Committee.*

Adolphus C. Bartlett,                  John A. Spoor,  
John V. Farwell, Jr.

1903.

*President* . . . . . Martin A. Ryerson  
*Vice-President* . . . . . J. Harley Bradley  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles F. Kimball  
*Secretary* . . . . . Rollin A. Keyes

*Executive Committee.*

Thies J. Lefens,                  Albert J. Earling,  
James H. Eckels.

1904.

*President* . . . . . J. Harley Bradley  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Edward B. Butler  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles F. Kimball  
*Secretary* . . . . . Rollin A. Keyes

*Executive Committee.*

George E. Adams,                  Byron L. Smith,  
Charles H. Wacker.

1905.

*President* . . . . . Edward B. Butler  
*Vice-President* . . . . . George E. Adams  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Elbridge G. Keith  
*Secretary* . . . . . Charles H. Hulburd

*Executive Committee.*

Enos M. Barton,                      John M. Clark,  
Victor F. Lawson.

1906.

*President* . . . . . George E. Adams  
*Vice-President* . . . . . John V. Farwell, Jr.  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Ernest A. Hamill  
*Secretary* . . . . . Benjamin Carpenter

*Executive Committee.*

Robert T. Lincoln,                      Chauncey Keep,  
Edward B. Butler.

# OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE MERCHANTS CLUB

*From the Year of Establishment*

1897.

*President* . . . . . John V. Farwell, Jr.  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Dunlap Smith  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles R. Corwith  
*Secretary* . . . . . Walter H. Wilson

## *Executive Committee.*

Harry G. Selfridge, Clarence Buckingham,  
Arthur Meeker.

## *Membership Committee.*

Henry A. Knott,  
John V. Farwell, Jr., Dunlap Smith.

## *By-Laws Committee.*

Clarence Buckingham,  
Charles A. Coolidge, Harry G. Selfridge.

## *Committee on Name of Organization.*

Hermon B. Butler,  
Frederick Greeley, Charles R. Corwith.



1897-98.

*President* . . . . . John V. Farwell, Jr.  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Dunlap Smith  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Charles R. Corwith  
*Secretary* . . . . . Walter H. Wilson

*Executive Committee.*

Harry G. Selfridge,                  Arthur Meeker,  
   Clarence Buckingham.

*Committee on Revenue Legislation.*

   Henry A. Knott,  
Alexander H. Revell,                  John V. Farwell, Jr.

1898-99.

*President* . . . . . Harry G. Selfridge  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Leslie Carter  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Nelson P. Bigelow  
*Secretary* . . . . . Walter H. Wilson

*Executive Committee.*

John V. Farwell, Jr.,                  Hermon B. Butler,  
   Rollin A. Keyes.

1899-1900.

*President* . . . . . Edgar A. Bancroft  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Rollin A. Keyes  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Nelson P. Bigelow  
*Secretary* . . . . . Alexander A. McCormick

*Executive Committee.*

Hermon B. Butler,                      Leslie Carter,  
Richard M. Bissell.

*Reception Committee.*

William R. Harper, Chairman.  
C. Frederick Kimball,      Edward B. Butler,  
Graeme Stewart,              John G. Shedd.

*Committee to Provide By-Laws for State  
Pawners' Society.*

Richard M. Bissell,  
Clarence Buckingham,              E. A. Bancroft.

*Committee to Revise By-Laws of  
Merchants Club.*

Hermon B. Butler,  
Dunlap Smith,                      Walter H. Wilson.

*Committee on City's Finances.*

Arthur T. Aldis, Chairman.  
Harold F. McCormick,      Rensselaer W. Cox.

*Small Parks Committee.*

Frederick Greeley, Chairman.  
Edgar A. Bancroft,      Alexander A. McCormick,  
Graeme Stewart,              Frederic W. Upham.

1900-1.

*President* . . . . . Hermon B. Butler  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Graeme Stewart  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Edwin G. Foreman  
*Secretary* . . . . . Hugh J. McBirney

*Executive Committee.*

Richard M. Bissell,      Alex. A. McCormick,  
Edgar A. Bancroft,      Rollin A. Keyes,  
                                 A. J. Earling.

*Reception Committee.*

                                 Rollin A. Keyes, Chairman.  
Charles L. Bartlett,      Frederick Greeley,  
Benjamin Carpenter,      Charles L. Strobel.

*Membership Committee.*

Edgar A. Bancroft,      John V. Farwell, Jr.,  
Richard M. Bissell,      Nelson P. Bigelow.

*Committee on City's Finances.*

William Kent,              Arthur T. Aldis,  
                                 Rensselaer W. Cox.

*Committee on Prevalence of Crime.*

Rollin A. Keyes,              Albert J. Earling.

1901-2.

*President* . . . . . Richard M. Bissell  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Arthur Meeker  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Alfred L. Baker  
*Secretary* . . . . . Benjamin Carpenter

*Executive Committee.*

Albert J. Earling,                Bernard E. Sunny,  
Edgar A. Bancroft,            Arthur T. Aldis,  
Frederick Greeley.

*Reception Committee.*

Frederick Greeley, Chairman.  
John R. Morron,                Hiram R. McCullough,  
Frederic W. Upham,            Tracy C. Drake.

*Small Parks Committee.*

Graeme Stewart,  
Edgar A. Bancroft,            Frederick Greeley,  
Alex. A. McCormick,          Frederic W. Upham.

*Finance Committee.*

Arthur T. Aldis,                Harold F. McCormick,  
Graeme Stewart,               Frederic W. Upham,  
A. F. Gartz,                    Alex. A. McCormick.



1902-3.

*President* . . . . . Alexander A. McCormick  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Louis A. Seeberger  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Alfred L. Baker  
*Secretary* . . . . . W. Vernon Booth

*Executive Committee.*

Arthur T. Aldis,                      Bernard E. Sunny,  
William Kent,                      Charles L. Bartlett,  
Benjamin Carpenter.

*Reception Committee.*

Benjamin Carpenter, Chairman.  
Rensselaer W. Cox,              Granger Farwell,  
Alexander H. Revell,              John F. Harris.

*Committee on Lake Front Park.*

Frederick Greeley,  
Alfred L. Baker,                      Arthur T. Aldis.

*Educational Committee.*

John R. Morron, Chairman.  
Richard M. Bissell,              James Gamble Rogers,  
Robert Mather,                      Charles D. Norton,  
William E. Clow,                      A. F. Gartz,  
Granger Farwell,                      Frank H. Armstrong,  
Harold F. McCormick,              Joseph T. Bowen.

1903-4.

*President* . . . . . Walter H. Wilson  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Alexander H. Revell  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Harold F. McCormick  
*Secretary* . . . . . Frank H. Armstrong

*Executive Committee.*

Charles L. Bartlett,      Hiram R. McCullough,  
William Kent,              Edward D. Kenna,  
Frederic W. Upham.

*Reception Committee.*

Frederic W. Upham, Chairman.  
Charles H. Wacker,      John R. Morron,  
Louis A. Ferguson,      David R. Forgan.

*New Charter Committee.*

Edward B. Butler,      Alexander H. Revell.

*Educational Committee.*

Granger Farwell, Chairman.  
Joseph T. Bowen,      Theodore W. Robinson,  
Harold F. McCormick,      Alfred L. Cowles,  
John R. Morron,      Charles H. Hodges,  
William E. Clow,      Allen B. Pond,  
James Gamble Rogers,      Charles L. Strobel,  
Charles D. Norton,      Reuben H. Donnelley,  
Frank H. Armstrong,      Francis C. Farwell.

1904-5.

*President* . . . . . Alfred L. Baker  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Charles H. Wacker  
*Treasurer* . . . . . Reuben H. Donnelley  
*Secretary* . . . . . Charles D. Norton

*Executive Committee.*

Hiram R. McCullough, Edward D. Kenna,  
John R. Morron, Granger Farwell,  
Graeme Stewart, Walter H. Wilson.

*Reception Committee.*

Graeme Stewart, Chairman.  
William E. Clow, Charles G. Dawes,  
Theodore W. Robinson, Louis A. Ferguson.

*Educational Committee.*

Joseph T. Bowen, Chairman.  
W. E. Clow, Secretary and Treasurer.  
Arthur D. Wheeler, Joseph E. Otis,  
Frank H. Armstrong, Frederic A. Delano,  
Granger Farwell, Allen B. Pond,  
Harold F. McCormick, Albert J. Earling,  
James Gamble Rogers, Reuben H. Donnelley,  
Theodore W. Robinson, Francis C. Farwell,  
Charles D. Norton.

*Street Cleaning Committee.*

(To co-operate with Commercial Club Committee.)

David R. Forgan, Harry G. Selfridge,  
Alexander H. Revell, John R. Morron,  
Frank H. Armstrong.

*Committee on Regulation of "Loan Sharks."*

Edgar A. Bancroft, Chairman.

Frederic W. Upham,      Edward A. Turner,  
Graeme Stewart,      John V. Farwell, Jr.

*Lake Bluff Naval Training Station Committee.*

Graeme Stewart, Chairman.

Frederic W. Upham,      John R. Morron,  
Harold F. McCormick,      Alfred L. Baker.

*New Charter Committee.*

Alexander H. Revell,      Edward B. Butler.

*Charter Revenue Committee.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.

Edward B. Butler,      Arthur D. Wheeler,  
Graeme Stewart,      Bernard E. Sunny.

*High-School Scholarship Committee.*

Granger Farwell, Chairman.

Charles H. Wacker,      John R. Morron.

*Committee in Charge of Visiting Chicago's  
Industries.*

Harold F. McCormick, Chairman.

William R. Harper,      Alfred Cowles.

*Committee on Lake Front Park.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.

Edgar A. Bancroft,      Alex. H. McCormick,  
Charles L. Bartlett,      Edward D. Kenna.

*Small Parks Committee.*

Graeme Stewart,

Edgar A. Bancroft,      Frederick Greeley,  
Alex. A. McCormick,      Frederic W. Upham.



1905-6.

*President* . . . . . Charles H. Wacker  
*Vice-President* . . . . . Frank H. Armstrong  
*Treasurer* . . . . . David R. Forgan  
*Secretary* . . . . . Charles D. Norton

*Executive Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Granger Farwell,  
Alfred L. Baker, Louis A. Ferguson,  
John R. Morron, Charles G. Dawes.

*Reception Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Chairman.  
Charles H. Thorne, James Gamble Rogers,  
Arthur D. Wheeler, A. A. Sprague II.

*Lake Bluff Naval Training Station  
Committee.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.  
Frederic W. Upham, John R. Morron,  
Harold F. McCormick, Alfred L. Baker,  
Charles H. Wacker.

*Charter Revenue Committee.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.  
Frederic W. Upham, Edward B. Butler,  
Arthur D. Wheeler, Bernard E. Sunny.

*Educational Committee.*

Arthur D. Wheeler, Chairman.

Joseph T. Bowen,	Harry G. Selfridge,
Benjamin Carpenter,	Charles L. Bartlett,
Walter B. Smith,	Rensselaer W. Cox,
Harold F. McCormick,	Thomas E. Donnelley,
Joseph E. Otis,	John F. Harris,
Allen B. Pond,	Hugh J. McBirney,
Clayton Mark,	Frank B. Noyes.

*High-School Scholarship Committee.*

Granger Farwell, Chairman.

John R. Morron,	Frank H. Armstrong,
Charles H. Wacker,	Albert J. Earling.

*Small Parks Committee.*

Frederick Greeley, Chairman.

Clarence Buckingham,	Allen B. Pond.
----------------------	----------------

*Committee in Charge Visiting Chicago's  
Industries.*

Edward F. Carry, Chairman.

Medill McCormick,	A. A. Sprague II,
Hiram R. McCullough,	Samuel Insull,
Harold F. McCormick.	

*Lake Front Park Committee.*

A. A. McCormick, Chairman.

Walter H. Wilson,	Edgar A. Bancroft,
B. A. Eckhart,	Charles H. Thorne.

*New Charter Committee.*

Alexander H. Revell, Chairman.

Edward B. Butler,	Bernard E. Sunny.
-------------------	-------------------

*Street Cleaning Committee.*

(To co-operate with Commercial Club Committee.)

David R. Forgan,	Harry G. Selfridge,
Alexander H. Revell,	John R. Morron,
Frank H. Armstrong.	

1906-7.

*President* . . . . . Charles D. Norton  
*Vice-President* . . . . . John R. Morron  
*Treasurer* . . . . . William E. Clow  
*Secretary* . . . . . Thomas E. Donnelley

*Executive Committee.*

Charles H. Wacker,      Frederic A. Delano,  
Louis A. Ferguson,      Charles R. Crane  
Charles G. Dawes,      Arthur D. Wheeler.

*Reception Committee.*

Arthur D. Wheeler, Chairman.  
Edward F. Carry,      Francis C. Farwell,  
John F. Harris,      John W. Scott.

*Educational Committee.*

Theodore W. Robinson, Chairman.  
Clayton Mark,      Bernard E. Sunny,  
John R. Morron,      Frederic W. Upham,  
John E. Wilder.

*City Plan Committee.*

*Chairman* . . . . . Charles D. Norton  
*Vice-Chairman* . . . . . Charles H. Wacker  
*Treasurer* . . . . . David R. Forgan  
*Chairman Finance Committee*, Walter H. Wilson  
Edward B. Butler,      Frederic A. Delano.



*Committee on Visiting Chicago Industries.*

Edward F. Carry, Chairman.

Harold F. McCormick,    W. Vernon Booth,  
Samuel Insull,            Hiram R. McCullough.

*Waterways Committee.*

Clyde M. Carr, Chairman.

Walter B. Smith,            Rensselaer W. Cox.

*Committee on Boulevard Link to Connect  
North and South Sides.*

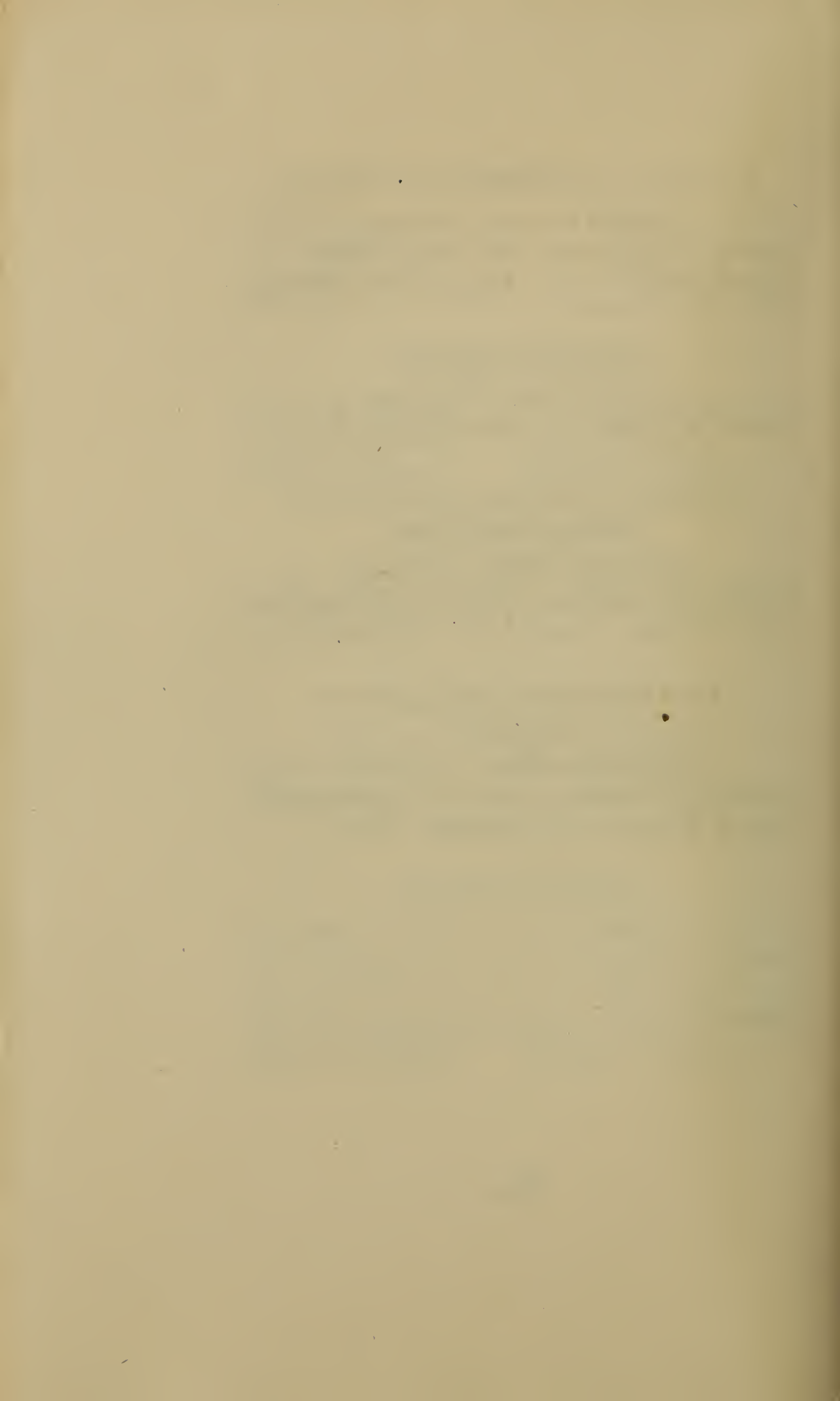
Charles H. Wacker, Chairman.

Frederic W. Upham,    Albert A. Sprague II,  
Clyde M. Carr,            Louis A. Ferguson.

*Lake Bluff Naval Training Station  
Committee.*

Walter H. Wilson, Chairman.

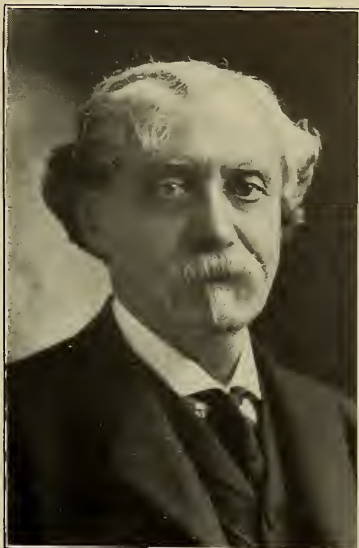
Frederic W. Upham,    Harold F. McCormick,  
John R. Morron,        Alfred L. Baker.



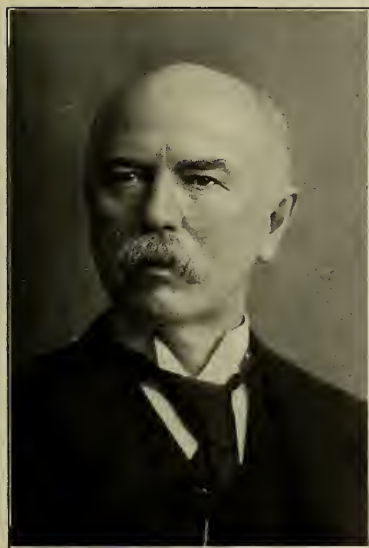
## COMMERCIAL CLUB



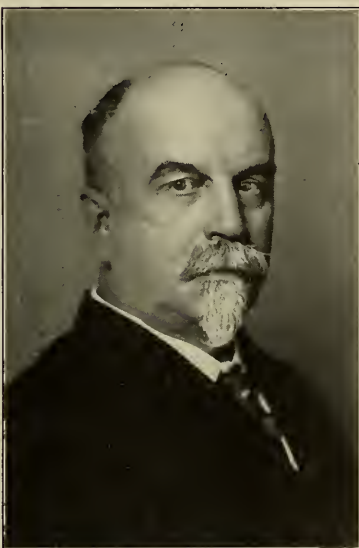
GEORGE CLINTON CLARKE  
Secretary Eight Years  
1878-1885



JOHN JAMES JANES  
Secretary Fifteen Years  
1886-1901



MURRY NELSON  
Treasurer Four Years  
1878-1881  
Vice-President, 1882



HENRY J. MACFARLAND  
Treasurer Ten Years  
1892-1901



## CATALOGUE OF MEETINGS



---

**NOTE:—**From its foundation until the union with the Merchants Club in 1907, the officers of the Commercial Club, for the current year, always arranged and were responsible for the first meeting of the following year.

# THE COMMERCIAL CLUB

1878.

LEVI Z. LEITER, President.

January 19, Chicago Club. Attendance, 19 members, 3 guests.  
Subject : The purpose, scope and best method of conducting  
this Club. General discussion.

Clinton Locke, Chaplain.

February 16, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 25 members, 2 guests.  
Subject : Compromise with fraud.  
Speakers : Hon. E. B. Washburn and members.

J. Monroe Gibson, Chaplain.

March 30, Chicago Club. Attendance, 22 members, 1 guest.  
Subject : The situation in our municipal affairs.

A. E. Kittridge, Chaplain.

April 27, Chicago Club. Attendance, 35 members, 2 guests.  
Subject : The situation in our municipal affairs.  
Speakers : Mayor Heath, Comptroller Farwell.

May 25, Palmer House. Attendance, 5 guests.  
Subject : Diversion of trade.

October 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 24 members, 7 guests.  
Subject : Our city streets.

Brooke Herford, Chaplain.

November 30, Tremont House. Attendance, 27 members, 6 guests,  
3 Club guests.

Subject : Taxation.

Bishop McLaren, Chaplain.

December 28, Sherman House. Attendance, 30 members.  
Subject : Taxation.

Speakers : Several members of Legislature were guests and  
took part in the discussion.

## 1879.

JOHN W. DOANE, President.

January 29, Palmer House. Attendance, 36 members, 4 guests.

Subject : Our Club : Its past and future. General discussion.

February 22, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 7 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : The Military, as protectors of property, local and National.

March 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 23 members, 5 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Legislative interference, congressional, state, and municipal, with private rights.

Arthur Swasey, Chaplain.

April 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 15 guests.

Subject : Should the higher schools be supported by public taxation?

Brooke Herford, Chaplain.

May 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 26 members, 3 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Sunday laws: To what extent ought they to be enforced in the interest of a good municipal government and the welfare of the citizens?

June: Visited Boston on invitation of Boston Commercial Club.

October 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 27 members, 9 guests.

Subject : Discussion informal.

Prof. David Swing, Chaplain.

November. Omitted.

December 6, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 50 members, 66 guests, 28 Club guests.

Subject: Special. Dinner given to General U. S. Grant on his return from his tour around the world.

Speakers : J. W. Doane, Gen. Grant, J. W. Candler, Gov. Rice, E. R. Mudge, M. D. Spaulding, Gov. Stannard, Gov. Bagley, T. F. Wilson, C. L. Colby, Ezra Millard, Rev. William Holland, E. G. Mason, Gov. Long, H. W. Brown, Gen. Horace Porter, F. W. Lincoln.

R. A. Holland, Chaplain.

December. Omitted.

## 1880.

JOHN W. DOANE, President.

January 31, Tremont House. Attendance, 8 Club guests, besides members and their guests.

Subject : Do we need a bankrupt law?

Speakers : Judge Henry W. Blodgett and members of the club.  
George C. Lorimer, Chaplain.

February 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 28 members, 3 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : Our sewerage; the public system and that of our homes; what are the defects and the possible remedies?

Speakers : Gen. Sooy Smith, Mayor Harrison, Rev. W. R. Alger, Dr. De Laskie Miller, and several Club members;  
John M. Clark.

W. R. Alger, Chaplain.

March 27, Palmer House. Attendance, 21 members, 7 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Has Chicago not reached a period in its growth when special attention should be paid to the fostering of art, literature and science?

Speakers : W. M. R. French, George E. Adams, W. H. Bradley and others.

W. H. Ryder, Chaplain.

April 24, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 4 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : What is the best pavement for our streets and boulevards?

Speakers : Mayor Harrison, and others.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

May 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 8 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : Should not the commercial prosperity of great cities be attended by the cultivation of art, literature, science and comprehensive charities, and the establishment of art museums, public libraries, industrial schools and free hospitals?

Speakers: Gen. Garfield, Ohio; Judge Edward Pierrepont, New York; Ex-Gov. Marshall Jewell, Connecticut; Gen. Horace Porter, New York.

Frederick K. Cornberg, Chaplain.

October 30, Chicago Literary Club. Attendance, 39 members, 9 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Nuisances afflicting Chicago; chiefly smoke, steam whistles and bad streets.

R. A. Holland, Chaplain.

November 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 9 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : The coming session of the Legislature; legislation needed.

Speakers : Gen. Sheridan, T. F. Withrow, J. L. Thompson, A. A. Carpenter, Gen. I. N. Stiles, Francis Adams, B. M. Wilson.

Herrick Johnson, Chaplain.

December. Meeting omitted. Christmas.

## 1881.

ORRIN W. POTTER, President.

January 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 40 members, 3 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : The Club.

Speakers : Members Fairbank, Leiter, Gage, Henderson, Blatchford, Clark, Crane, MacVeagh, Nelson and Harvey.

Dr. Sullivan, Chaplain.

February 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 7 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : Disposition of Chicago sewage.

Speakers : E. S. Chesbrough, George Muirhead, and Eugene Cary, of guests, and members J. M. Clark, Drake, MacVeagh, Pullman, A. A. Sprague, Watkins and Leith.

F. A. Noble, Chaplain.

March 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 8 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Our license laws and their bearing on the expenses of our city government.

Speakers : Lester, King, Wampold, McAuley, Blatchford, Edson Keith, E. G. Keith, Crane, Gage, Doane, George C. Walker, A. A. Sprague, Watkins, Nelson, Gen Sooy Smith, J. D. Harvey.

Galusha Anderson, Chaplain.



April 30, Leland Hotel. Attendance, 31 members, 13 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : The need of a half-holiday in Chicago.

Speakers : F. W. Palmer, A. S. Gage, D. L. Shorey of guests, members Hughitt, Macfarland, Preston, Nelson.

Brooke Herford, Chaplain.

May 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 27 members, 3 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Our bridge system: its relation to commerce and the city's business interests.

Speakers: Edwin Lee Brown, D. C. Cregier, John M. Loomis, John M. Clark, A. A. Carpenter, George C. Walker.

J. M. Worrell, Chaplain.

November 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 9 guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject : Does punishment follow crime in this community? If not, why not?

Speakers: Judges Tuley, Wallace, Hawes, Dickey; J. L. High, C. R. Cameron, E. A. Storrs, John M. Clark.

J. M. Worrell, Chaplain.

December 31, Union League Club. Attendance, 33 members, 12 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : The right of the State to interfere in the affairs of public corporations.

Speakers : William Ripley, M. L. Scudder, members Nelson, Baker, Drake, Leith.

George C. Milne, Chaplain.

## 1882.

ALBERT A. SPRAGUE, President.

January 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 14 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : How can the city best raise sufficient revenue to efficiently carry on the different branches of its government?

Speakers : President Eliot, Comptroller T. T. Gurney, Alderman A. H. Burley, E. C. Larned; members Carpenter, George C. Walker, Watkins.

J. H. Barrows, Chaplain.

February 25, Palmer House. Attendance, 42 members, 15 guests,  
2 Club guests.

Subject : What can be done to suppress or check gambling  
in this city?

Speakers : Judge Syms of Denver, Melville E. Stone, Elmer  
Washburn, Judge J. D. Caton, also members Fairbank,  
Gage, Baker, Clark.

E. P. Goodwin, Chaplain.

March 25, Palmer House. Attendance, 36 members, 17 guests, 1  
Club guest.

Subject : The need of a school for industrial training in  
Chicago.

Speakers : Charles H. Ham, Col. A. Jacobson, Prof. S. H.  
Peabody, Marshall Field, E. W. Blatchford, R. T. Crane.  
Mr. Field headed subscription paper with \$20,000, and  
\$57,000 was pledged before adjournment.

Arthur Little, Chaplain.

April 29, Palmer House. Attendance, 36 members, 13 guests, 3  
Club guests.

Subject : Consolidation of various charities under one  
system.

Speakers : E. B. McCagg, Rev. W. C. Wendte, and members.  
W. H. Ryder, Chaplain.

May 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 47 members, 29 guests,  
66 Club guests.

Special banquet in honor of the St. Louis and Cincinnati  
Commercial Clubs.

Speakers : Murry Nelson, John W. Doane, and responses by  
James L. Broadhead of St. Louis, and Thomas T. Gaff of  
Cincinnati, and by Gen. Sheridan and Rev. R. A. Holland.

Brooke Herford, Chaplain.

October. Omitted because of visit to St. Louis with Boston and  
Cincinnati Clubs.

November 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 9  
guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Paper by Mr. Blatchford on the "Training School."

Speakers : Gov. Anthony of Kansas, Rev. Minot Savage of  
Boston, and several members.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

December 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 10 guests.

Subject : Need of a State license law to regulate the sale of alcoholic and malt liquors.

Speakers : J. H. McVicker, and several members of Legislature, members Carpenter, King, Drake, Henderson.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

## 1883.

AUGUSTUS A. CARPENTER, President.

January 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 13 guests.

Subject : What is the most desirable method of increasing the revenue of the city, and to what extent should it be increased?

Speakers : Thomas Hoyne, Emery Storrs, O. S. A. Sprague, J. M. Clark.

February 24, Palmer House. Attendance, 31 members, 10 guests.

Subject : Use and abuse in the disposition of charities.

E. I. Galvin, Chaplain.

March 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 3 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject: The open and increasing immorality in this city: can anything be done to lessen it?

Speakers : Rabbi Hirsch, M. K. Jessup of New York, and members Henderson, Bartlett, George C. Walker, J. M. Clark, Farwell, Gage, George C. Clarke.

William H. Vibbert, Chaplain.

April 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 10 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Need and practicability of a scheme to provide cheap and good houses for working people.

Speakers : Mr. S. S. Beman, members Crane, Hughitt, Crerar, Gage.

Rabbi Hirsch, Chaplain.

May 26, Calumet Club. Attendance, 35 members, 16 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Is it practical in matters of dispute in commercial transactions to substitute some system of arbitration for reference to court and juries?

Speakers : John N. Jewett, B. C. Cook, members Baker, Crerar, George C. Clarke, Carpenter.

H. W. Thomas, Chaplain.

October 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 4 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Desirability at future reunions of Commercial Clubs in cities to set apart a portion of one day to discuss the commercial interests of the various cities represented by the Clubs.

Speakers : Members King, H. W. Fuller, Nelson, Clarke, Farwell, Wampold, Clark.

M. Utter, Chaplain.

November 24, Calumet Club. Attendance, 53 members, 67 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : Complimentary and farewell to Lieut. Gen. P. H. Sheridan.

Speakers : Gen. Sheridan, Gen. Schofield, E. G. Mason, Rev. Louis S. Osborne, Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Franklin MacVeagh.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

December 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 14 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : Hennepin Canal.

Speakers : Maj. Benyard and other guests, and several members.

Clinton Locke, Chaplain.



1884.

JOHN M. CLARK, President.

January 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 7 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject: Should the United States Government undertake transmission of telegraphic messages as it now undertakes the transmission of letters by mail?

Speakers: Edward Everett Hale, Prof. Elisha Gray, Judge John D. Caton, members Henderson, Baker, Stager.  
Louis S. Osborne, Chaplain.

February 23, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 6 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject: What are the causes of the present depression of commercial and industrial interests?

Speakers: J. H. McVicker, members Bartlett, Crane, Crerar, Drake, Fairbank, Field, Gage, Harvey, King, Macfarland, Pullman.

Bishop McLaren, Chaplain.

March 29, Palmer House. Attendance, 35 members, 5 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject: Legislative blackmail and municipal corruption: Cause and remedy.

Speakers: Mayor A. G. Adams of Burlington, Judge Eugene Cary, members McGenniss, Edson Keith, E. G. Keith, Harvey, O. S. A. Sprague, George C. Clarke.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

April 26, Leland Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 10 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject: Silver as money: What should be the position of the Government relative thereto?

Speakers: Sub-Treasurer Gilbert, M. L. Scudder, members Carpenter, Nelson, Gage.

Louis S. Osborne, Chaplain.

May 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 28 guests, 7 club guests.

Subject: What should be the character and limitations of instruction at public schools?

Speakers: Hon. Andrew D. White, John I. Gilbert, Murat Halsted, Whitelaw Reid, Justice Harlan, Franklin MacVeagh. (Theodore Roosevelt expected, but did not come.)

Bishop Fallows, Chaplain.



October 24, Palmer House. Attendance, 41 members, 6 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Informal; principally in regard to Training Schools.

Speaker : E. W. Blatchford on Manual Training School.

J. Coleman Adams, Chaplain.

November 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 10 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Is speculation an injury or a benefit to the general business interests of the country?

Speakers: E. Nelson Blake, members Bartlett, Henderson, Nelson, Baker.

F. M. Bristol, Chaplain.

December 27, Calumet Club. Attendance, 49 members, 20 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : Unemployed laborers: What obligations rest upon the city or citizens for their support? What measures are practicable on the part of employers to diminish their numbers? Can any plan of employment, public or private, be devised that will provide them with at least a bare living?

Speakers : Prof. H. C. Adams, Edwin Lee Brown, Judge Gresham, Dr. Hosmer Johnson, R. T. Crane, J. J. Glessner, Henry W. King.

W. M. Salter, Chaplain.

## 1885.

FRANKLIN MACVEAGH, President.

January 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 45 members, 12 guests, 1 Club guest.

December subject continued.

Speakers : Rev. E. I. Galvin, members Hughitt, Fairbank, Pullman, Drake, Gage.

Thomas E. Green, Chaplain.

February 28, Palmer House. Attendance, 34 members, 7 guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject : What should be done to prepare for the possible advent of cholera the coming season?

Speakers: Mayor Harrison, Comptroller T. T. Gurney, Drs. J. N. Hyde, Rauch, Ludlam, De Wolf, Johnson.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

March 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Omitted, in respect to memory of General Anson Stager.

April 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 5 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Should nominations and appointments to municipal offices be made on business principles to the entire exclusion of partisan considerations?

Speakers : J. H. McVicker, George F. Bissell, Judge Lambert Tree, Gen. George W. Smith, Gen. John M. Schofield, members George C. Walker, James L. Houghteling.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

May 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 11 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Should the citizens of Chicago make the necessary efforts to secure the location of the new Artillery School and Military Station near Chicago?

Speakers : Gen. Schofield, Rev. W. A. Bartlett, members Carpenter, John M. Clark, Fairbank, Field, Hughitt, E. G. Keith, Oakley.

A. E. Kittridge, Chaplain.

June 26 and 27. Visited Boston at invitation of Boston Commercial Club.

October 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 24 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : What course of governmental action relative to gold and silver coinage will, if taken, best subserve our industrial and commercial interests?

Speakers : Hon. James McArthur read paper for Gen. A. J. Warner; Hon. E. S. Lacey.

W. H. Vibbert, Chaplain.

November 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 8 guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Ought the difference in freight rates between car lots and less than car lots be abolished?

Speakers : Members A. C. Bartlett, A. A. Sprague, O. S. A. Sprague.

Prof. F. W. Fiske, Chaplain.

December 26, Kinsleys. Attendance, 44 members, 11 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : The Press: Its power for good and evil. How can we promote the one and discourage the other?

Speakers : Hon. Joseph Medill, Melville E. Stone, J. H. McVicker, members Gage, E. G. Keith, Fairbank.

Clinton Locke, Chaplain.

1886.

LYMAN J. GAGE, President.

January 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 46 members, 13 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Our Club: Its past history: its future possibilities.

Speakers: C. H. Ham, Profs. Woodward and Belfield, George R. Blanchard, E. W. Blatchford.

J. Coleman Adams, Chaplain.

February 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 6 guests, 2 Club guests.

January subject continued.

Speakers : Gen. Schofield, members Pullman, Fairbank, Nelson, Crane, E. G. Keith, and others.

George C. Lorimer, Chaplain.

March 27, Kinsley's. Attendance, 43 members, 8 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Is it advisable for the citizens of Chicago to make the necessary efforts to secure the location of the new Artillery School and Military Station near Chicago?

Speakers : Gen. Schofield, Hon. R. T. Lincoln, Judge Eugene Cary, Elmer Washburn, T. F. Withrow, George M. Pullman.

M. W. Stryker, Chaplain.

April 24, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 17 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : The eight-hour movement: its advantages, disadvantages, and probable results.

Speakers : M. M. Trumbull, Wm. Salter, R. T. Crane, O. W. Potter.

George C. Lorimer, Chaplain.

May 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 17 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : The late civil disorder: its causes and lessons.

Speakers : Gen. W. T. Sherman, F. W. Peck, members Crane, Houghteling, Nelson, King, George C. Clarke.

Rabbi Hirsch, Chaplain.

October 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 10 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : Abstracts of title, Cook County: evils and dangers of present system; what reforms are needed?

Speakers : A. M. Pence, C. E. Simmons, John G. Shortall,  
John P. Wilson, George C. Walker.

W. H. Ryder, Chaplain.

November 27, Richelieu Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 13 guests,  
2 Club guests.

Subject : Social and industrial antagonisms: What can be  
done to avert the evils they threaten?

Speakers : William Neistadt, C. B. Holmes.

John H. Barrows, Chaplain.

December 18, Kinsley's. Attendance, 44 members, 12 guests, 8 Club  
guests.

Subject : Drainage and water supply of the City of Chicago.

Speakers : Rudolph Herring, C. E., L. E. Cooley, C. E., Dr.

John L. Rauch, Benezette Williams, C. E., Ossian Guthrie,  
Hon. David L. Shorey, members Fairbank, Glessner.

John H. Worcester, Chaplain.

## 1887.

ADOLPHUS C. BARTLETT, President.

January 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 48 members, 9  
guests, 1 Club guest.

Subject : Our Club: Reflections, criticisms and suggestions.

Speakers : Members Henry W. King, E. G. Keith, John M.  
Clark.

Prof. David Swing, Chaplain.

February 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 28  
guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Bucket Shops and Pool Rooms: Their danger to  
the business interests of the city. How can they be sup-  
pressed?

Speakers: George G. Brine, members Baker, Fairbank, and  
Nelson.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

March 26, Palmer House. Attendance, 38 members, 14 guests, 3  
Club guests.

Subject : The saloon in politics.

Speakers : Andrew Paxton, members Houghteling, Clark,  
E. G. Keith, Nelson.

Chas. Conklin, Chaplain.



April 30, Richelieu Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 20 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : Should the theatres of Chicago be closed on Sundays?

Speakers: J. H. McVicker, John H. Hamline, J. M. Hill, C. C. Bonney, members Hotz, Drake, Glessner, Rand, Fairbank.  
W. H. Ryder, Chaplain.

June 11, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 45 members, 42 guests, 50 Club guests.

Special meeting and banquet to the Boston Commercial Club.  
Prof. Swing, Chaplain.

October 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 17 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : Our duty, as citizens, to the State.

Speakers : Hon. A. M. Pence, Gen. I. N. Stiles, Judges Gary and Grinnell, Rev. Dr. Parker of London, members Crane and Phelps.

J. L. Withrow, Chaplain.

November 26, Richelieu Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 23 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : The Clubs of Chicago: Their influence in this city.

Speakers : H. J. Macfarland for Calumet; Geo. W. Smith for Union League; Alson E. Clark, Illinois; Augustus Jacobson, Chicago; E. G. Mason, University; Rev. Geo. C. Noyes, Literary; Chas. D. Hamill, Apollo.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

December 31, Kinsley's. Attendance, 48 members, 25 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : American Citizenship: What legislation, if any, is desirable to control the immigration of foreigners to this country?

Speakers : Hon. Herman Raster, Hon. George E. Adams, Hon. R. W. Dunham, members Farwell and King.

Thomas C. Hall, Chaplain.



1888.

ELIPHALET W. BLATCHFORD, President.

January 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 45 members, 18 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : Monopolies: Their effect upon the public.

Speakers : Judge John W. Green, James S. Norton, John M. Clark.

J. Wolfenden, Chaplain.

February 25, Kinsley's. Attendance, 40 members, 31 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Commercial union with Canada.

Speakers : Hon. Erastus Wyman of New York, Hon. Benjamin Butterworth of Ohio, Lyman J. Gage.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

March 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 12 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : What are the best means of preventing pauperism and crime?

Speakers : C. H. Ham, Judge O. H. Horton, J. D. Grinnell, W. J. Onahan, C. B. Holmes.

J. Coleman Adams, Chaplain.

April 28, Calumet Club. Attendance, 38 members, 19 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Railroads: The obligations of the management to the stockholders, the employes and the public.

Speakers : E. T. Jeffrey, C. W. Ernst, members A. A. Sprague, Porter, Hotz.

David R. Breed, Chaplain.

October 27, Kinsley's. Attendance, 43 members, 13 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Sunday Laws: To what extent ought they to be enforced in the interest of good municipal government and the welfare of its citizens?

Speakers : Prof. Blanchard, Rev. Dr. J. M. Pullman, members MacVeagh, Glessner.

Arthur Little, Chaplain.

November 24, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 9 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Rapid transit for Chicago.

Speakers : Hon. Thos. B. Bryan, Col. R. P. Morgan, J. Frank Aldrich, C. B. Holmes.

Clinton Locke, Chaplain.

December 31, Kinsley's. Attendance, 44 members, 41 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : The Interstate Commerce Law: Its effect upon the railroads and the business of the country since it has been in operation.

Speakers : Senator Henry L. Dawes, Hons. W. C. Goudy, M. E. Ingalls, T. F. Withrow, John S. Runnells, H. C. Wickes, members Bartlett and Harvey.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

## 1889.

CHARLES L. HUTCHINSON, President.

January 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 15 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Our Club: What has it accomplished? What are our duties as members?

Speakers : Members Harvey, Crane, Hotz, Houghteling.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

February 23, Kinsley's. Attendance, 29 members, 9 guests, 11 Club guests.

Subject : The indifference of the intellectual classes to politics; causes and remedies.

Speakers : Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Hon. F. F. Davis, A. M. Pence, members Holmes, McClurg.

F. M. Bristol, Chaplain.

March 30, Kinsley's. Attendance, 39 members, 14 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Legislative interference with vested and private rights.

Speakers : Hon. Lyman Trumbull, Judge Eugene Cary, John H. Hamline, George Driggs, L. J. Gage.

Samuel Fallows, Chaplain.

April 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 32 members, 4 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Reflections and criticisms upon the subjects and discussions during the past year.

Speakers : Hon. John N. Jewett, Baron Erlanger, Julius Dexter, members E. G. Keith, MacVeagh, Nelson, George C. Walker.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain (absent).

October 26. Omitted, in respect to memory of John Crerar.

November 30, Kinsley's. Attendance, 39 members, 11 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Social and economical aspects of the eight-hour movement.

Speakers : Hon C. S. Darrow, and members Field, Hughitt, Crane, Porter, Rand, King, made brief remarks.

J. L. Withrow, Chaplain.

December 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 19 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Employers and employed: Their relative rights and reciprocal duties.

Speakers : Mr. Percival Chubb of England, George C. Prussing, and members Gage, Holmes, Crane, Nelson.

Clinton Locke, Chaplain.

## 1890.

ELBRIDGE G. KEITH, President.

January 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 47 members, 37 guests, 34 Club guests.

Subject : Public Libraries: Their use, influence, and administration.

Speakers : President Angell, Justin Winsor, LL.D., Rev. Jos. H. Twitchell, W. F. Poole, LL.D., George W. Curtis, Prof. H. B. Adams, Hon. Andrew D. White, Hon. Newton Bateman, and others unable to be present, sent papers.

E. I. Galvin, Chaplain.

March 1, Kinsley's. Attendance, 38 members, 14 guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject : Manual Training: How to get it.

Speakers : Hon. James McAllister, Superintendent of Public Schools, Philadelphia; Col. Augustus Jacobson.

Thos. C. Hall, Chaplain.

March 29, Calumet Club. Attendance, 39 members, 21 guests, 12 Club guests.

Subject : Do we need a bankrupt law? If so, what should be its main provisions?

Speakers : Hon. Jay L. Torrey and E. C. Simmons, of St. Louis; Hon. O. H. Horton.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

April 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 52 members, 11 guests, 12 Club guests.

Subject : Nuisances afflicting Chicago, chiefly smoke, filthy streets and alleys.

Speakers : Hon. D. C. Cregier, Henry S. Boutell, Hon. Joseph Medill, W. J. Onahan, Dr. Swayne Wickersham, Hon. John A. Roche, members Clark, Fairbank, MacVeagh, Crane.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

June 23, Grand Pacific Hotel.

(Special—John B. Drake's invitation) Faculty and Students of Chicago Manual Training School.

Speakers : W. T. Belfield and others.

October 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 18 guests, 11 Club guests.

Subject : Has Chicago not reached that period when special attention should be given to the founding of art galleries and museums? Will the World's Columbian Exposition be of any benefit to this city in that direction?

Speakers : Hon. T. B. Bryan, W. M. R. French, E. T. Jeffery, members Hutchinson, MacVeagh, Fairbank.

John H. Barrows, Chaplain.

November 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 46 members, 20 guests, 15 Club guests.

Subject : Is the cause of education best served by our present public school system?

Speakers : Dr. Norman Bridge, Ferd. W. Peck, William G. Beale, A. G. Lane, Hon. Benjamin Butterworth.

Rabbi Hirsch, Chaplain.

December 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 47 members, 19 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : What shall be done to obtain good municipal government for Chicago?

Speakers : Hon. Murray F. Tuley, John N. Jewett, John H. Hamline, members Baker, Fairbank, Head, Glessner, George C. Walker.

A. L. Canfield, Chaplain.



## 1891.

MARVIN HUGHITT, President.

January 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 36 guests, 23 Club guests.

Subject : The relation of the colleges to the development of the Northwest, and the relation of the business men to the colleges.

Speakers : President Angell, Michigan; President Henry W. Rogers, Northwestern; Prof. W. R. Harper, Yale; President W. C. Roberts, Lake Forest; President E. D. Eaton, Beloit.

(Presented Silver Service to Secretary Janes.)

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

February 28, Kinsley's. Attendance, 35 members, 16 guests, 15 Club guests.

Subject : How can the safety and comfort of our citizens and strangers be assured, and the city made more attractive during the World's Exposition?

Speakers : William A. Bond, John H. Hamline, D. C. Cregier, Hempstead Washburn, R. S. Tuthill, Franklin MacVeagh.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

March 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 26 members, 10 guests, 10 Club guests.

Subject : Our Citizen Soldiers: What obligations rest upon the State for their support?

Speakers : Gen. Chas. Fitz Simons, Col. C. R. E. Koch, Col. Louis Judd, Col. C. P. Bryan, A. C. McClurg.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

April. Omitted.

October 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 51 members, 48 guests, 110 Club guests.

Subject : Entertainment of the Boston, Cincinnati and St. Louis Clubs.

Speakers : Marvin Hughitt, President; A. H. Hardy, Boston; W. L. Huse, St. Louis; L. C. Weir, Cincinnati; William Whitman, Boston; Col. Geo. E. Leighton, St. Louis; Geo. H. Burrows, Cincinnati; Eugene Cary, Chicago; Hon. John W. Candler, Boston; Geo. E. Leighton, for Gov. Stannard, St. Louis; M. E. Ingalls, Cincinnati.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.



November 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 18 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : A World's Fair Memorial.

Speakers: Prof. F. W. Putnam of Boston, Dr. W. R. Harper, E. G. Mason, members Baker and Fairbank.

John Rouse, Chaplain.

December 26. Omitted.

## 1892.

TURLINGTON W. HARVEY, President.

January 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 15 guests, 12 Club guests.

Subject : The smoke nuisance.

Speakers: Chas. F. White, Pres. Chas. Kendall Adams, C. W. Drew, J. S. Dunham, Edward Norton, Samuel Allerton, F. H. Head.

F. M. Bristol, Chaplain.

February 22, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 47 members, 40 guests, 152 Club guests.

Subject : Our country, and the influence of the World's Fair on commerce.

Speakers : Hon. Hempstead Washburn, Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire; Hon. B. A. Enloe, Tennessee; H. B. Macfarland, Washington, D. C.; Hon. A. G. Carruth, Kentucky; Hon. John B. Robinson, Pennsylvania; Hon. H. H. Rockwell, New York; Hon. A. Camietta, California; Marquis Imperiali; Senator Peffer, Kansas; Hon. Geo. N. Houk, Ohio; Hon. Geo. L. Wilson, Washington; Hon. James Buchanan, New Jersey; General Curtis, New York; Senator Saunders, Montana.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

March 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 18 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : The situation in our municipal affairs.

Speakers: John H. Hamline, Ingolf K. Boyesen, M. E. Stone, members Peabody, Glessner, Houghteling.

L. T. Chamberlain, Chaplain.

April 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 17 guests, 11 Club guests.

Subject : Is it desirable and feasible to elevate the tracks of the steam railroads within the city limits?

Speakers : Hon. J. Frank Aldrich, Carl Bender, Judge J. D. Springer, Hon. John S. Miller.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

October 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 21 guests, 34 Club guests.

Subject: The Allied Arts as illustrated in the construction of the World's Columbian Exposition.

Speakers : D. H. Burnham, Steele Mackaye, Frank D. Millet, M. Bartholomay, Franklin MacVeagh

Thomas C. Hall, Chaplain.

November 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 20 guests, 10 Club guests.

Subject : In view of a possible epidemic of cholera in Europe during the coming year, should not Congress take immediate action restricting immigration?

Speakers : Drs. John B. Hamilton, J. S. Mitchell, R. N. Isham, F. W. Reilly; members Head and Nelson.

Floyd W. Tompkins, Chaplain.

December 31, Lexington Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 21 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : Social Science: How may individuals be trained for their partnership in the community?

Speakers : Prof. Graham Taylor, Prof. A. W. Small, Rev. C. G. Trusdell, Prof. Ira Remsen, R. T. Crane.

J. G. Johnson, Chaplain.

## 1893.

ALEXANDER C. McCLURG, President.

January 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 26 guests, 39 Club guests.

Subject : The World's Columbian Exposition: The relation of the departments to the advancement of industry, science, and art.

Speakers : Hon. Geo. R. Davis, Director General; Hon. Walker Fearn, Chief Dept. Foreign Affairs; W. I. Buchanan, Chief Dept. Agriculture; F. J. V. Skiff, Mines; S. H. Peabody, Liberal Arts; Halsey C. Ives, Fine Arts; Willard A. Smith, Transportation; F. W. Putnam, Ethnology; L. W. Robinson, Machinery; Rev. John H. Barrows, World's Auxiliary.

Frank M. Bristol, Chaplain.

February 25, Kinsley's. Attendance, 40 members, 20 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: How can the cleanliness of this city be best promoted during the coming year?

Speakers: Arthur Ryerson, Gen. Sooy Smith, Dr. John D. Ware, M. B. Madden, E. L. Kuhns, members Glessner and E. G. Keith.

Rabbi Hirsch, Chaplain.

March 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 26 members, 9 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject: Would the administration of our state and municipal governments be improved if conducted under civil service reform law?

Speakers: Hon. John H. Hamline, Hon. L. D. Thoman, Col. James A. Sexton, Hon. A. M. Waterman, members Peabody, Seeberger, Clark.

Herrick Johnson, Chaplain.

April 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 30 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Nicaragua Canal: Its effect upon commerce.

Speakers: Hon. Warner Miller, Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, Stuyvesant Fish, N. K. Fairbank.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

October 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 52 members, 33 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject: A review of the World's Fair, with reference to its permanent influences and results.

Speakers: Charles Dudley Warner, Rev. F. W. Gunsaulus.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.

(Mayor Harrison's assassination announced, and club adjourned at once.)

November 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 12 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: A review of the World's Fair, with reference to its permanent influence and results.

Speakers: E. G. Mason, Rabbi Hirsch, D. H. Burnham, Prof. T. C. Chamberlain, President W. R. Harper, Paul Du Chaillu, Ex-Gov. Rice of Massachusetts.

T. C. Hall, Chaplain.

December 30, Auditorium. Attendance, 44 members, 11 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: What is the present duty of Chicago or its citizens toward its unemployed laborers?

Speakers: Members Gage, Nelson, Houghteling, King, Harvey; also W. R. Sterling.

E. N. Stires, Chaplain.

1894.

WILLIAM T. BAKER, President.

January 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 8 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Upon what terms should the city grant franchises for the use of its streets and alleys?

Speakers: Hon. Harry Rubens, Hon. M. B. Madden, Hon. Aldace F. Walker, Hon. John S. Miller, John J. Glessner.  
O. P. Gifford, Chaplain.

February 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 26 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Has the Interstate Commerce Law proved beneficial to the business interests of the country?

Speakers: Hon. Aldace F. Walker, Prof. Arthur T. Hadley, Geo. R. Blanchard, H. H. Porter.  
Thos. C. Hall, Chaplain.

March 31, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 11 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Will anti-option legislation by Congress be beneficial to the business interests of the country?

Speakers: C. D. Hamill, Hon. J. E. Russell, Cyrus H. Adams, members Fairbank, King, Porter.  
Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

April 28, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 9 guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject: Is International Bi-metalism practicable and desirable?

Speakers: E. Benjamin Andrews, Prest. Brown University; W. C. Cornwell, Prest. City National Bank, Buffalo; members E. G. Keith and Nelson.  
John H. Barrows, Chaplain.

October 27, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 22 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: Our currency: What are its defects? What remedies are practicable? Would a National Commission help promote reform?

Speakers: Prof. J. Lawrence Laughlin, Hon. A. B. Hepburn, James H. Eckels, L. J. Gage.  
Thomas N. Morrison, Chaplain.



November 24, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 11 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: How can the evils of our present system of taxing real and personal property and levying special assessments be reformed?

Speakers: Hon. H. B. Hurd, W. K. Ackerman, Josiah Lombard, Gen. George W. Smith, Murry Nelson.

S. G. Smith, of St. Paul, Chaplain.

December 29, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 49 members, 14 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject: What should be done with the Lake Front?

Speakers: John H. Hamline, members George C. Walker, Bartlett, Fairbank.

Thomas C. Hall, Chaplain.

## 1895.

HENRY W. KING, President.

January 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 40 members, 12 guests, 13 Club guests.

Subject: How can municipal reform be best promoted?

Speakers: Hon. John W. Ela, Hon. George E. Adams, Prof. Albion W. Small.

John Rouse, Chaplain.

February 23, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 5 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject: To hear report of committee appointed to visit Springfield in interest of municipal reform.

Speakers: Hon. George B. Swift, John H. Hamline, members Peabody and Gage.

J. H. Barrows, Chaplain.

March 30, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 8 guests, 22 Club guests.

Subject: How shall municipal affairs be relieved from the strain of party affiliation so as to insure the perfect working of the merit system?

Speakers: James S. Norton, Robert A. Waller, members E. G. Keith, Houghteling, M. E. Stone.

W. M. Lawrence, Chaplain.



April. Omitted; members absent.

October. Omitted; St. Louis excursion 23rd and 24th.

November 30, Kinsley's. Attendance, 40 members, 11 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : Review of our recent trip to St. Louis.

Speakers : Members Porter, Bartlett, Crane, H. B. Stone, Head, Chalmers.

W. W. Fenn, Chaplain.

December 28, Kinsley's. Attendance, 45 members, 12 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : The financial situation in our municipal affairs: What is the remedy?

Speakers : Hon. George B. Swift, Hon. O. D. Wetherell, Hon. Joseph Medill.

J. H. Barrows, Chaplain.

## 1896.

FRANCIS B. PEABODY, President.

January 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 7 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : What can be done to reform the inequalities of the present system of taxing real and personal property?

Speakers : Prof. Booker T. Washington, members George C. Walker, Higinbotham.

N. D. Hillis, Chaplain.

February 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 7 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : What should be the settled policy of the United States in its relations to other powers? What is the reasonable construction of the Monroe Doctrine, and on what occasions should it be invoked?

Speakers : E. Burritt Smith, President Henry Wade Rogers, Franklin MacVeagh.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

March 28, Kinsley's. Attendance, 31 members, 11 guests, 11 Club guests.

Subject : What, if anything, can be done to more thoroughly safeguard the morals of the youth of this city?

Speakers : I. P. Rumsey, Rev. W. T. Meloy, Judge John Prindle, Maj. R. W. McClaughry, F. E. Haskell, A. G. Lane, H. N. Higinbotham.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

April 25, Kinsley's. Attendance, 40 members, 11 guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject : Civic Reform.

Speakers : Hon. L. D. Thoman, William Kent, John M. Harlan, Washington Hesing, members Clark, Hotz, Crane, R. A. Waller.

E. M. Stires, Chaplain.

October 31, Kinsley's. Attendance, 46 members, 12 guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : The Amendment to the Constitution to be voted upon at the election of November 3rd; the necessity for its adoption; the reform to be accomplished under it.

Speakers : Gen. R. J. Smith, Julius Stern, I. K. Boyesen, Murry Nelson.

J. S. Stone, Chaplain.

November 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 10 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Charity organizations: The scheme and purpose of the work; the necessity for its existence as a preventive of Pauperism and Crime.

Speakers : Prof. A. W. Small, Prof. C. R. Henderson, Prof. Hastings Hart of St. Paul, Rev. C. G. Trusdell.

Edward A. Larrabee, Chaplain.

December 24, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 15 guests, 24 Club guests.

Subject : Our facilities for commerce : Should the river channel be widened and deepened?

Speakers : Capt. J. S. Dunham, George J. Brine, E. E. Ayer, B. A. Eckhart, Jesse Spaulding, E. P. Ripley, Murry Nelson, H. H. Porter.

J. H. O. Smith, Chaplain.

## 1897.

JOHN J. GLESSNER, President.

January 30, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 36 members, 8 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : The supreme court of the United States : Its place and function in the government; its permanence and independence are essential to the existence of the republic.

Speakers : Hon. John C. Black, Hon. P. S. Grosscup, Hon. Charles H. Aldrich, Hon. S. S. Gregory.

E. M. Stires, Chaplain.

February 11, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 46 guests, 4 Club guests.

Special: Complimentary to Hon. Lyman J. Gage.

Speakers: Members Glessner, Baker, Higinbotham, Hon. L. J. Gage.

N. D. Hillis, Chaplain.

March 27, Hotel Metropole. Attendance, 29 members, 9 guests, 19 Club guests.

Subject: What can be done to make Chicago more attractive?

Speakers: D. H. Burnham, James W. Ellsworth.

(The beginning of the City plan.)

Frank Crane, Chaplain.

April 24, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 5 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject: Should municipal elections be kept free from party politics?

Speakers: I. K. Boyesen, Hon. Carter H. Harrison, members Keith and Nelson.

Johnston Myers, Chaplain.

October 30, Kinsleys. Attendance, 39 members, 9 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject: What change, if any, should be made in the system of assessment for taxation?

Speakers: Gov. John R. Tanner, John P. Wilson, Marvin A. Farr, H. N. Higinbotham.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

November 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 11 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: Would an exposition building on the Lake front be of any advantage to Chicago?

Speakers: James W. Ellsworth, members Chalmers, Bartlett, MacVeagh, Nelson.

Frank Crane, Chaplain.

December. Omitted. Christmas.

1898.

EUGENE CARY, President.

January 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 16 guests,  
10 Club guests.

Subject : The annexation of Hawaii.

Speaker : Hermann Edouard von Holst, Ph. D.

J. G. K. McClure, Chaplain.

February 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 31 members, 15 guests,  
13 Club guests.

Subject : The monetary commission and its work.

Speakers : James H. Eckels, Hon. Hugh H. Hanna.

H. A. Johnson, Chaplain.

March 26, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 9 guests,  
11 Club guests.

Subject : The significance of the coming municipal election.

Speakers : Geo. E. Cole, E. Burritt Smith, R. J. Smith, James  
L. Houghteling.

W. J. Chichester, Chaplain.

April 30, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 32 members, 11 guests, 12  
Club guests.

Subject : The Cuban situation.

Speakers : Judge P. S. Grosseup, D. P. Jones, Chief Engineer  
U. S. Navy (retired), Hon. W. J. Calhoun, Gen. O. O. How-  
ard.

N. D. Hillis, Chaplain.

October 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 17 guests,  
8 Club guests.

Subject : The Philippine Islands: The duty and policy of the  
United States in reference thereto.

Speakers : Judge P. S. Grosseup, James H. Eckels, Franklin  
MacVeagh.

W. C. Richardson, Chaplain.

November 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 15  
guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : What I saw in India.

Speaker : Rev. John H. Barrows, D. D.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Chaplain.



December 31, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 14 guests, 21 Club guests.

Subject : The need of monetary legislation.

Speakers : Hon. Charles G. Dawes, Hon. E. S. Lacey, James B. Forgan, Hon. James R. Mann, W. T. Baker.

W. J. McCaughan, Chaplain.

## 1899.

CYRUS H. McCORMICK, President.

January 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 11 guests, 2 Club guests.

Subject : What are Chicago's most urgent needs?

Speakers : Members Nelson, Eckhart, Jones, Kimball.

Thaddeus A. Snively, Chaplain.

February 18, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 40 members, 48 guests, 28 Club guests.

Subject : Open door in China : Complimentary to Lord Charles Beresford.

Speakers : Lord Charles Beresford, George E. Adams.

N. D. Hillis, Chaplain.

March 25, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 28 members, 9 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : Our duty and responsibility toward juvenile offenders.

Speakers : Judge E. F. Dunne, Howard O. Sprogle, Judge Neely, B. E. Sunny, E. B. Butler.

Samuel Fallows, Chaplain.

May 13, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 40 guests, 14 Club guests.

Subject : Electricity.

Speaker : Nikola Tesla.

S. J. McPherson, Chaplain.



October 16, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 52 members, 56 guests, 66 Club guests.

Subject : Complimentary banquet to the President of the United States.

Speakers: President McKinley; Vice-Pres. Mariscal of Mexico; Hon. R. R. Dobell, M. P. of Canada; Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State; L. J. Gage, Secretary of Treasury; A. C. Bartlett.

W. R. Notman, Chaplain.

November 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 13 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Our municipal improvements: Those most needed and how to obtain same.

Speakers : Hon. Carter H. Harrison, Hon. W. D. Kerfoot, members Hotz, Hutchinson, Bartlett, Nelson.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

December 30, Calumet Club. Attendance, 47 members, no guests.

Subject : Our Club.

Speakers : Members A. A. Sprague, George C. Walker, Ryerson, Keith, Hughitt, Lefens, Higinbotham, Wacker, Clowry.

Invocation by E. W. Blatchford.

## 1900.

WILLIAM J. CHALMERS, President.

January 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 46 members, 54 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject : Liquid air.

Speaker : Prof. Charles E. Tripler.

E. A. Lippincott, Chaplain.

February 24, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 8 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : How can juvenile offenders be cared for and reformed?

Speakers : F. H. Nibecker, Supt. Glen Mills branch Pennsylvania House of Refuge; James Allison, Supt. Cincinnati House of Refuge, Judge R. S. Tuthill.

P. S. Henson, Chaplain.

March 31, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 23 guests,  
10 Club guests.

Subject : The effect of the non-enforcement of the law upon  
the development of the city and upon individual rights.

Speakers : Frederick P. Bayley, Dankmar Adler, M. R. Grady,  
Graham Taylor.

Father Dorney, Chaplain.

April 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 19 guests,  
2 Club guests.

Subject : The Peace Conference at The Hague.

Speaker : Hon. Frederick W. Holls, Secretary U. S. Delegation  
to The Hague.

W. W. Fenn, Chaplain.

October 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 38 members, 19 guests,  
6 Club guests.

Subject : Should the Federal Government appropriate funds  
for water storage and arid land reclamation?

Speakers : Elwood Mead, U. S. Department of Agriculture;  
F. H. Newell, U. S. Geological Survey; George H. Maxwell;  
members Ryerson, Bartlett.

J. L. Withrow, Chaplain.

November 24, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 18  
guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : Our merchant marine: What should be done to  
promote and encourage it?

Speakers : Henry W. Peabody, Boston; C. E. Kremer, George  
E. Adams.

J. K. Mason, Chaplain.

December 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 48 members, 17  
guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : Justice courts: What reforms are needed?

Speakers : Robert McMurdy, Esq., John C. Everett, J. P.

W. W. Fenn, Chaplain.

## 1901.

WILLIAM A. FULLER, President.

January 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 14 guests,  
6 Club guests.

Subject : The consideration of the report of the Committee  
appointed at the meeting held last April to formulate  
a plan for the care of juvenile offenders.

Speakers : Judge Carter, John J. Sloan, members Fuller and  
McCormick.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

February 22, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 28 members, 16  
guests, 4 Club guests.

Subject : The practicability of land colonization as a remedy  
for city congestion and consequent poverty and vice.

Speakers : Lieut. Col. William Brewer of Salvation Army,  
Mr. Frederick Harrison of England.

John H. Boyd, Chaplain.

March 30. Omitted. (California trip.)

April 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 11 guests,  
49 Club guests.

Subject : Complimentary to Mayor and Common Council.

Speakers : Mayor Harrison, Alderman Charles H. Werno and  
H. H. Blake, member Franklin MacVeagh.

Father Sherman, Chaplain.

October 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 23 guests,  
2 Club guests.

Subject : Reciprocal trade with the Dominion of Canada.

Speakers : Osborne Howes of Boston Chamber of Commerce,  
Hon. James R. Mann.

No Chaplain.

November 30, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 31  
guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : Taxation.

Speakers : John P. Wilson, Esq.; John V. Farwell, Jr.

Bishop Anderson, Chaplain.

December 28. Omitted.

## 1902.

DAVID B. JONES, President.

January 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 45 members, 21 guests,  
8 Club guests.

Subject : The Isthmian Canal.

Speakers : George S. Morison, New York; Edward P. Ripley.  
Richard D. Harlan, Chaplain.

February 22, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 17  
guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : The Americanization of the World.

Speaker : Frank A. Vanderlip, New York.  
John G. K. McClure, Chaplain.

March 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 19 guests,  
5 Club guests.

Subject : The financial aspect of the Chicago Public School  
question.

Speakers : John S. Miller, Elbridge G. Keith.  
Pleasant Hunter, Chaplain.

April 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 17 guests,  
5 Club guests.

Subject : Representation of Cook County in the Legislature.

Speakers : Walter L. Fisher, Edgar A. Bancroft, John H.  
Hamline, A. C. Bartlett.  
Frank Du Moulin, Chaplain.

October 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 15 guests,  
4 Club guests.

Subject : Our relations with Cuba.

Speaker : Gen. James H. Wilson, U. S. A.  
Herbert L. Willett, Chaplain.

November 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 51 members, 35  
guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : The relation of University education to commerce.

Speaker : President Woodrow Wilson, Princeton University.  
William R. Notman, Chaplain.

December 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 48 members, 29  
guests, 12 Club guests.

Subject : The Louisiana Purchase: Its purpose and scope.

Speakers : Hon. D. R. Francis, Isaac S. Taylor, F. J. V. Skiff,  
Isaac W. Morton, Wm. T. Baker, H. N. Higinbotham.  
Thaddeus A. Snively, Chaplain.



## 1903.

MARTIN A. RYERSON, President.

January 31, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 16 guests,  
2 Club guests.

Subject : Twenty-fifth anniversary.

Speakers : A. C. Bartlett, A. A. Sprague, Murry Nelson, William T. Baker, Erskine M. Phelps, John M. Clark, George C. Walker, Franklin MacVeagh.

Bishop Cheney, Chaplain.

February 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 30 members, 11 guests,  
11 Club guests.

Subject : Is the college an efficient institution?

Speaker : Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Frank W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

March 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 32 members, 12 guests,  
10 Club guests.

Subject : The proposed Constitutional Amendment.

Speakers : John M. Clark, H. S. Mecartney, E. Allen Frost, John S. Miller, B. E. Sunny.

Thaddeus A. Snively, Chaplain.

April 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 13 guests,  
10 Club guests.

Subject : How may Chicago be made more interesting and attractive?

Speakers : Franklin MacVeagh, Fletcher Dobyns, Daniel H. Burnham.

Z. B. Phillips, Chaplain.

October 14, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 56 members, 120 guests,  
3 Club guests.

Subject : American good citizenship.

Speaker : Hon. Grover Cleveland.

Frank W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

November 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 47 members, 33  
guests, 10 Club guests.

Subject : The Alaskan boundary case.

Speaker : Hon. Jacob M. Dickinson.

William O. Walters, Chaplain.

December 26. Omitted.



## 1904.

J. HARLEY BRADLEY, President.

January 30, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 44 members, 16 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject: The report of the committee of nine appointed in April, 1903, to formulate a general plan for Chicago's improvement.

Speakers: Franklin MacVeagh, J. Harley Bradley, Leslie Carter, J. V. Farwell, Jr., A. C. Bartlett, D. H. Burnham, A. J. Earling, C. L. Hutchinson, Martin A. Ryerson.

R. A. White, Chaplain.

February 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 27 members, 18 guests, 12 Club guests.

Subject: The advantages and disadvantages of the proposed constitutional amendment permitting a special charter for the City of Chicago.

Speakers: John M. Clark, Mayor Dunne, John S. Miller, Esq. Johnston Myers, Chaplain.

March 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 28 members, 20 guests, 13 Club guests.

Subject: The streets of Chicago: What is the best way of keeping them clean?

Speakers: Hon. L. E. McGann, Frederick W. Blocki, John C. Ericson, Hon. Frank I. Bennett, Harry G. Selfridge.

Frank Du Moulin, Chaplain.

April 30, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 40 members, 28 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: Making peace between China and Japan. A personal reminiscence by Honorable John W. Foster, of Washington, D. C.

Speaker: Hon. John W. Foster.

James S. Stone, Chaplain.

October 29. Omitted.

November 26, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 29 guests, 10 Club guests; also 65 from Merchants Club.

Joint meeting with the Merchants Club in honor of Honorable Charles S. Deneen.

Speakers: Hon. George E. Adams, Hon. Charles S. Deneen, Hon. L. Y. Sherman.

John A. Morrison, Chaplain.

December 31. Omitted.

1905.

EDWARD B. BUTLER, President.

January 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 42 members, 21 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject : The Republic of Cuba.

Speakers : Senor Don Gonzalo Quesada, Minister to the United States; James H. Eckels; Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, U. S. A., was detained by illness, as was also Rev. Fred. V. Hawley, who was to have been Chaplain.

February 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 31 members, 13 guests, 10 Club guests.

Subject : The Municipal Museum of Chicago.

Speakers : Hon. Theodor Lewald, Imperial Commissioner-General of Germany to the St. Louis Exposition; Mr. Frederick S. Lamb, President of the Architectural League, New York; Mr. Charles Zeublin, Professor of Sociology The University of Chicago.

John Balcom Shaw, Chaplain.

March 18, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 25 members, 7 guests, 10 Club guests; also 41 from Merchants Club.

Subject: Street paving and street cleaning.

Speakers : John W. Alvord, C. E., Author "Commercial Club Report on Street Paving Problem of Chicago"; Richard T. Fox, Manager Citizens Street Cleaning Bureau, Chicago; Charles H. Wacker, Chairman Finance Committee Citizens Street Cleaning Bureau; Prof. Albion W. Small, Ph. D., LL.D.

J. G. K. McClure, Chaplain.

April 29, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 15 guests, 6 Club guests.

Subject : Reminiscences of the Cuban trip.

Speakers : James B. Forgan, Hon. David R. Francis of St. Louis; Lucien Wulsin, Cincinnati; Thomas H. West, St. Louis; Benjamin Carpenter; William J. Chalmers.

John A. Morrison, Chaplain.

October 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 29 members, 17 guests,  
5 Club guests.

Subject : Old age industrial pensions.

Speaker : Hon. Frank A. Vanderlip, Vice-President of the  
National City Bank of New York.

Z. B. Phillips, Chaplain.

November 25, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members, 16  
guests, 9 Club guests.

Subject: Progress in smoke abatement, civic beauty and  
social unity.

Speakers: Franklin MacVeagh; John C. Schubert, Smoke In-  
spector; Prof. George E. Vincent, The University of Chi-  
cago.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

December. Omitted.

## 1906-07.

GEORGE E. ADAMS, President.

January 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 35 guests,  
4 Club guests.

Subject : The southern boy and his opportunity.

Speaker : Dr. Edwin A. Alderman, President of the University  
of Virginia.

Frederick V. Hawley, Chaplain

February. Omitted.

March 31, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 23 members, 19 guests,  
5 Club guests.

Subject : About the Philippines.

Speaker : Mr. Charles Hopkins Clark, Editor of the Hartford  
Courant.

John Balcom Shaw, Chaplain.

April 28, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 28 members, 6 guests, 6  
Club guests.

Subject : Small parks and playgrounds.

Speakers : Hon. Edward F. Dunne, Mayor; Miss Jane Addams,  
of Hull House; Judge Julian W. Mack, of the Juvenile  
Court.

Father O'Callahan, Chaplain.

October 27, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 32 members.

Subject : The future policy of the Commercial Club.

Closed meeting; general discussion.

November 24, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members, 18 guests, 10 Club guests.

Subject : The presentation of \$50,000 to the St. Charles School for Boys.

Speaker : Hon. Charles S. Deneen, Governor State of Illinois.

January 26, 1907, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 35 members Commercial, 53 Merchants; no guests except the speakers.

Closed joint meeting with Merchants Club.

Speakers : Hon. Theodore P. Shonts, Chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission; Mr. William J. Calhoun, Envoy of the United States.

April 6, 1907, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 89 members, 58 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : The City and the State.

Speaker : Rt. Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador.

Stewart Roberts, Chaplain.

# THE MERCHANTS CLUB

1897-1898.

JOHN V. FARWELL, Jr., President.

February 6, 1897, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject : The needs of a great city.

Speakers : Washington Hesing, D. H. Burnham, Mayor  
George B. Swift, William Kent, Rev. S. J. McPherson,  
and John J. Glessner.

March 7, 1897, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject : The primary election law.

Speakers : Horace S. Oakley, Lawrence Y. Sherman, Chair-  
man of the Committee on Elections; Judge John Barton  
Payne; Alderman John Maynard Harlan, and Rev. Frank  
M. Bristol.

April 3, 1897, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject : The improvement of the south shore.

Speakers : D. H. Burnham, Ferd. W. Peck, Dunlap Smith,  
Harry G. Selfridge, and Walter H. Wilson.

May 1, 1897.

Subject : Is a municipal party desirable?

Speakers : David B. Jones, A. D. Philpot, Samuel B. Ray-  
mond, and Lawrence E. McGann.

November 6, 1897, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject: Postal savings banks.

Speakers : Henry Sherman Boutell and George E. Foss, mem-  
bers of the House of Representatives from Illinois; E. S.  
Lacey, President of the Bankers' National Bank; Charles  
U. Gordon, Postmaster, and Rev. E. M. Stires.

December 4, 1897, Chicago Club. Attendance, 26 members, no  
guests.

Closed meeting.



January 8, 1898, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject : The proposed new revenue law.

Speakers : Charles E. Selby and Isaac Miller Hamilton, members Illinois Legislature; John P. Wilson, and Dunlap Smith.

February 5, 1898, Wellington Hotel.

Subject : The coming aldermanic elections.

Speakers : John V. Farwell, Jr., Judge Murray F. Tuley, Aldermen Charles M. Walker, Henry S. Fitch, and Walter C. Nelson; Ex-Alderman William Kent, and George E. Cole, President Municipal Voters' League.

March 12, 1898, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject : The mayor's cabinet.

Speakers : President John V. Farwell, Jr.; Josiah Quincy, mayor of Boston; John C. Cobb, of Boston; Judge C. C. Kohlsaatt, and E. A. Bancroft.

April 8, 1898, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Annual closed meeting.

President John V. Farwell, Jr., submitted his report of the work of the Club during the fiscal year. Election of officers.

## 1898-99.

HARRY G. SELFRIDGE, President.

November 12, 1898, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 66 members and guests.

Subject : Advantages to be gained by Chicago and the Northwest from territorial expansion.

Speakers : Stuyvesant Fish, of New York; William E. Curtis, of Washington; Henry S. Boutell, and H. P. Judson.

December 10, 1898, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : A permanent exposition building in Chicago.

Speakers : H. N. Higinbotham, Otto Young, Charles Truax, Robert A. Waller, City Comptroller; Charles L. Hutchinson, Frank H. Cooper, Dr. N. D. Hillis, Volney W. Foster, Frank O. Lowden, William J. Wilson, Professor Graham Taylor, A. J. Earling, Dr. William R. Harper, John V. Farwell, Jr., and Thomas B. Bryan.

January 14, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : Provident Pawnors' Societies.

Speakers: Joseph W. Errant, The situation in Chicago; N. A. Partridge, European pawnshops; Charles E. Kremer, The legal phases; R. M. Bissell, From a club member's point of view; Rev. C. M. Morton, A personal experience in a pawnshop.

February 11, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : Our trade relations with Canada.

Speakers : President Harry G. Selfridge, Hon. John Charlton, member Canadian Parliament; and James H. Eckels.

March 11, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 62 members and guests.

Subject : Greater Chicago.

Speakers : John Barton Payne, Sigmund Zeisler, Judge C. C. Kohlsaat, Judge Elbridge Hanecy, Charles S. Cutting, and Representative John R. Newcomer.

April 8, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Annual closed meeting.

Revision of by-laws and election of officers.

## 1899-1900.

EDGAR A. BANCROFT, President.

November 11, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 115 members and guests.

Subject : Small parks and playgrounds.

Speakers : Jacob A. Riis, of New York; Richard M. Bissell, Benjamin S. Terry, and Alderman Robert K. Griffith.

December 9, 1899, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 60 members and guests.

Subject: A Mills lodging house for Chicago.

Speakers : John Lloyd Thomas, superintendent of the Mills Hotels, New York; and John H. Bogue, chairman of the lodging-house committee of the Improved Housing Association of Chicago.

January 13, 1900, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Closed meeting.

Revised by-laws adopted. Addresses made by Rollin A. Keyes, Fred W. Upham, Graeme Stewart, and Alexander H. Revell.

February 10, 1900, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 39 members, 37 guests.

Subject : The national bankruptcy law.

Speakers : Hon. J. P. Dolliver, member of the House of Representatives from Iowa, and W. A. Prendergast, of New York, secretary of the National Association of Credit Men.

March 10, 1900, Grand Pacific Hotel. Attendance, 34 members, 46 guests.

Subject : The reorganization of the consular service.

Speakers : Hon. Robert Adams and Hon. E. W. S. Tingle.

April 14, 1900, University Club. Attendance, 37 members.  
Annual closed meeting.

## 1900-1901.

HERMON B. BUTLER, President.

November 10, 1900, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : Municipal ownership of public utilities.

Speakers : Professor Edmund J. James and Colonel E. R. Bliss.

December 8, 1900, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : Use of the streets of the city for the transportation of the people: Conditions upon which franchises should be granted to private corporations.

Speakers : G. E. Hooker, Hon. Milton J. Foreman, and George E. Cole.

January 19, 1901, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : The use of public school buildings as neighborhood social centers.

Speakers : Rev. T. E. Sherman, S. J.; Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus, R. M. Bissell, and Hon. L. Y. Sherman.

February 9, 1901, Grand Pacific Hotel.

Subject : Commercial high schools.

Speakers : Professor J. W. Jenks, of Cornell University; Edwin G. Cooley, superintendent Chicago public schools; John G. Shedd, John V. Farwell, Jr., and Edgar G. Barratt.

March 9, 1901, Chicago Athletic Club.

Subject : The Negro problem in the South.

Speakers : Dr. P. B. Barringer, of the University of Virginia,  
and Booker T. Washington, of Tuskegee Institute.

April 13, 1901, Kinsley's. Attendance, 45 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of committees. Short addresses by H. B. Butler, A.  
T. Aldis, E. A. Bancroft, William Kent, J. V. Farwell, Jr.,  
Frederick Greeley, Dunlap Smith, A. A. McCormick, Robert  
Mather, Granger Farwell, H. G. Selfridge, and B. E. Sunny.

Election of officers and appointment of committees.

## 1901-1902.

RICHARD M. BISSELL, President.

November 9, 1901, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 70 members  
and guests.

Subject : Financial and industrial combinations.

Speakers : Hon. Carroll D. Wright, U. S. Commissioner of  
Labor, and Judge James B. Dill, of New York.

December 14, 1901, Kinsley's.

Subject : Citizens' organizations for better government.

Speakers : Francis C. Huntington, of the Citizens' Union of  
New York; Walter L. Fisher, secretary Municipal Voters'  
League of Chicago; and George E. Cole, President Citi-  
zens' Association of Chicago.

January 11, 1902, Kinsley's.

Subject : The infallibility of the press.

Speakers : Melville E. Stone, president Associated Press;  
Roswell M. Field, Slason Thompson, and John T. Mc-  
Cutcheon.

February 15, 1902, Kinsley's. Attendance, 75 members and guests.

Subject : Limitations of liberty.

Speakers : The Rt. Rev. John Ireland, Archbishop of Min-  
nesota; Professor George E. Vincent, of the University of  
Chicago.

March 8, 1902, Kinsley's. Attendance, 65 members and guests.

Subject : The reclaiming of criminals.

Speakers : Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth and Miss Jane Ad-  
dams.



April 12, 1902, Kinsley's. Attendance, 45 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of committees, election of officers, and appointment of committees.

## 1902-1903.

ALEXANDER A. McCORMICK, President.

November 8, 1902, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 29 guests.

Subject : Labor unions in relation to modern industrial and commercial progress.

Speakers : David B. Jones, president of Commercial Club, Chicago, and Thomas I. Kidd, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor.

December 13, 1902, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 45 members, 20 guests.

Subject : The necessity for a state civil service law.

Speakers : Joseph Powell, Henry G. Foreman, Frank H. Scott, and Edgar A. Bancroft.

January 10, 1903, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 37 members. Closed meeting.

February 14, 1903, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 41 members, 28 guests.

Subject : The Lake Front Park.

Speakers : Daniel H. Burnham, Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus, John H. Hamline, Bryan Lathrop, and Daniel F. Crilly.

March 14, 1903, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 33 members, 21 guests.

Subject : Some things Chicago has reason to be proud of.

Speakers : Emil G. Hirsch, Dr. Graham Taylor, C. Norman Fay, William S. Jackson, E. G. Cooley, Frank H. Scott, Walter L. Fisher, W. M. R. French, J. B. Riddle, and Allen B. Pond.

April 11, 1903, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 27 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of officers and committees, election and installation of officers, and appointment of committees.

June 17, 1903, Club guests of Mr. Alfred L. Baker at Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest. Ill.

Special meeting.



## 1903-1904.

WALTER H. WILSON, President.

December 12, 1903, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 50 members, 70 guests.

Subject: Chicago and our country. What shall it profit us if we gain the whole world and lose our souls?

Speaker: Judge Peter S. Grosscup.

January 9, 1904, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 62 members, 132 guests.

Subject: Police administration.

Speakers: Chicago police as seen by criminals, Frank Willard ("Josiah Flynt"); Police organization and discipline, Captain Alexander R. Piper, of New York City; City courts, Common Justice for all of us, William Travers Jerome, district attorney of New York City.

February 18, 1904, Auditorium Hotel, and at Washington School, Erie and Morgan streets. Attendance, 34 members, 34 guests.

After inspection of the Washington school the Club dined and heard reports of educational committee.

Speakers: Edwin G. Cooley, superintendent of schools; W. J. Bogan, principal of Washington school; Joseph T. Bowen, chairman west division educational committee of Merchants Club; Allan B. Pond, chairman O'Toole school committee; Granger Farwell, chairman educational committee; James Gamble Rogers, chairman Washington school committee.

March 12, 1904, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 43 members, 101 guests.

Subject: Some problems and policies of the new department.

Speakers: Hon. George B. Cortelyou, Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor; Brigadier-General Frederick Dent Grant.

April 8, 1904, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 42 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of committees, election of officers, and appointment of committees.

June 14, 1904. Visit to Illinois Telephone and Telegraph Company's tunnel.

July 14, 1904, Chicago Club. Attendance, 150 members and guests.  
Special meeting in honor of Honorable Paul Morton, Secretary of the Navy.  
Subjects and Speakers: The President of the United States—Hon. Shelby M. Cullom, United States Senator.  
The Navy—Hon. George E. Foss, chairman committee on naval affairs, House of Representatives.  
As the Spirit Moves—Hon. Joseph G. Cannon, Speaker of the House of Representatives.  
Our Guest—Mr. Edward D. Kenna.  
Response—Hon. Paul Morton.

## 1904-1905.

ALFRED L. BAKER, President.

November 8, 1904, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 150 members and guests.

Subject: American elections.

Speakers: Right Honorable John Morley, M. P.; John Wanamaker, Edgar A. Bancroft, Frank H. Jones.

November 26, 1904. Joint meeting with the Commercial Club.

December 10, 1904, Auditorium. Attendance, 45 members.

Closed meeting.

Reports of committee on Merchants Club bill for regulation of "Loan Sharks;" Citizens' street cleaning bureau; educational committee; naval training station.

Speakers: John V. Farwell, Jr., Edgar A. Bancroft, Graeme Stewart, David R. Forgan, Frank H. Armstrong, Joseph T. Bowen, Joseph E. Otis.

January 14, 1905, Auditorium. Attendance, 140 members and guests.

Subjects and Speakers: The Chicago Commercial Association—John G. Shedd.

The great lakes as a factor in transportation facilities—William L. Brown.

Chicago as a financial center—David R. Forgan.

Chicago as a manufacturing center—John R. Morron.

The public schools—E. G. Cooley.

Art and music—Charles L. Hutchinson.

The spirit of progress and Chicago's new charter—A. M. Compton, chairman ways and means committee Chicago Commercial Association.

January 28, 1905. Visit to South Works Illinois Steel Company.

February 18, 1905, Kinsley's.

Subjects and Speakers: Commercial and political integrity—  
Hon. John A. Johnson, Governor of Minnesota.

Competition or Socialism, Which?—Hon. Albert B. Cummins,  
Governor of Iowa.

March 18, 1905, Joint meeting with the Commercial Club.

April 22, 1905, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 48 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of officers and committees, election of officers and  
committees.

May 10, 1905, Auditorium Hotel, at 1 o'clock p. m. Attendance,  
160 members and guests.

Special meeting. Luncheon in honor of Theodore Roosevelt,  
President of the United States.

October 11, 1905. Attendance, 41 members.

Special meeting. Dinner at Onwentsia Club at Lake Forest  
as the guests of Mr. Alfred L. Baker.

## 1905-1906.

CHARLES H. WACKER, President.

November 11, 1905, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 132 members  
and guests.

Subject: Our trade relations with China.

Speaker: Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng, His Imperial Chinese  
Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipo-  
tentiary.

December 5, 1905. Visit to works of the Pullman Palace Car Com-  
pany.

December 9, 1905, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 166 members  
and guests.

Subject: The old navy and the new.

Speakers: General Horace Porter and Admiral Dewey.

January 13, 1906, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 100 members  
and guests.

Subjects and Speakers: The national forest service—Hon.  
Gifford Pinchot, forester.

Is forestry practicable—Mr. Nelson W. McLeod, president  
National Lumber Manufacturers' Association.

February 18, 1906 (held in Café de Chapultepec, City of Mexico).  
Attendance, 48 members and guests, many of whom were  
from the City of Mexico.

Speakers: Mr. Alfred L. Baker, Sr. Senator Jose Castellot,  
Mr. Robert Mather, Sr. Don Sebastian Camacho, and  
Mr. Arthur D. Wheeler.

February 27, 1906. Special meeting. Dinner tendered by Pres.  
Charles H. Wacker to Mr. Robert Mather on return of  
the Mexican party.

March 10, 1906, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 132 members and  
guests.

Subject: The ethics of corporate management.

Speaker: Charles W. Eliot, LL.D., President of Harvard  
University.

May 5, 1906, Auditorium Hotel.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports of officers and committees, election of officers and  
committees.

## 1906-1907.

CHARLES D. NORTON, President.

November 10, 1906, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject: Canada and reciprocity.

Speaker: James J. Hill, president Great Northern Railway  
Company.

December 8, 1906, Auditorium Hotel.

Subject: Public schools and their administration.

Speakers: Theodore W. Robinson; Edward C. Eliot, Ex-  
chairman Board of Education of St. Louis, Mo.; James  
J. Storrow, president Board of Education of Boston, Mass.;  
Nicholas Murray Butler, president Columbia University,  
New York.

January 26, 1907. Closed joint meeting with the Commercial Club.

February 9, 1907, Auditorium Hotel.

Closed meeting. (Last meeting of The Merchants Club.)

Speakers: Charles D. Norton, John R. Morron, Arthur T.  
Aldis, Alfred L. Baker, Edgar A. Bancroft, Richard M.  
Bissell, Frederic A. Delano, John V. Farwell, Jr., David  
R. Forgan, Frederick Greeley, Frank H. Jones, William  
Kent, Alexander A. McCormick, Paul Morton, Edwin A.  
Potter, Theodore W. Robinson, John G. Shedd, Charles H.  
Wacker, Arthur D. Wheeler, Walter H. Wilson.

# THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

The Commercial Club, Organized 1877.

The Merchants Club, Organized 1896.

United 1907.





# THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

1907-1908.

JOHN V. FARWELL, JR., President.

April 27, 1907, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 72 members.

Closed meeting.

Subject : Plan of Chicago.

General discussion.

May 31, 1907, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 71 members, 81 guests, 21 Club guests.

Formal dinner in honor of General Baron Kuroki.

Speakers : Major-General A. W. Greeley, U. S. A., Commander of the Northern Division; Hon. George E. Adams, General Baron Kuroki.

November 9, 1907, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 84 members, 37 guests, 19 Club guests.

Subject : The effect of industrial education upon the German empire.

Speaker : Dr. K. G. Rudolph Leonhard, Jr., University of Breslau.

Subject : The effect of industrial education upon labor.

Speaker : John Golden, president United Textile Workers of America.

Subject : Possibilities of industrial education in America.

Speaker : Henry S. Pritchett, president Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement in Teaching.

December 14, 1907, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 82 members, 48 guests, 3 Club guests.

Subject : Public domain—Department of the Interior.

Speaker : Hon. Ethan A. Hitchcock, Ex-Secretary of the Interior.

Subject : Forestry, irrigation, and public lands.

Speaker : George H. Maxwell, executive chairman the National Irrigation Association.

January 11, 1908, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 81 members, 47 guests, 15 Club guests.

Subject : The principles of infection and the tuberculosis problem.

Speakers : Dr. L. Hektoen, director of the Memorial Institute for Infectious Diseases; Dr. Henry Baird Favill, Dr. Frank Billings, Dr. William H. Evans, Commissioner of Health of Chicago.

January 25, 1908, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 82 members, and Dr. Henry S. Pritchett and Messrs. E. H. Bennett and Jules Guerin.

Subject : Plan of Chicago.

Closed meeting. General discussion.

March 14, 1908, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 63 members, 51 guests, 5 Club guests.

Subject : The Government and business.

Speaker : Woodrow Wilson, LL.D., president Princeton University.

April 14, 1908, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 86 members, 158 guests, 18 Club guests.

Subject : Trade with the Orient.

Speaker : Hon. William H. Taft, Secretary of War.

J. G. K. McClure, Chaplain.

May 2, 1908, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 64 members.

Annual closed meeting.

Reports and general discussion by members.

## 1908-1909.

ROLLIN A. KEYES, President.

June 10, 1908, Dinner at Onwentsia Club. Attendance, 32 members, 4 guests.

Annual trip to United States Naval Training School.

November 3, 1908, Auditorium Hotel. Attendance, 130 members and guests.

Special meeting. Plan of Chicago, with reports of committees, also election returns.

November 14, 1908, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 54 members, 29 guests, 16 Club guests.

Subject: The public schools of our large cities: Their administration and curriculum.

Speaker: John Thurston Finley, LL.D., president College of the City of New York.

F. W. Gunsaulus, Chaplain.

December 12, 1908, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 80 members, 53 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: The psychologist and the practical life.

Speaker: Professor Hugo Münsterberg.

Charles Horswell, Chaplain.

January 9, 1909, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 76 members, 54 guests, 7 Club guests.

Subject: Parole, probation and indeterminate sentence.

Speakers: Major R. W. McClaughry, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas; Judges Mack, Barnes and Cutting.

Robert Hugh Morris Chaplain.

February 13, 1909, Congress Hotel. Attendance, 59 members, 47 guests, 8 Club guests.

Subject: The people and the courts.

Speaker: Mr. Edgar A. Bancroft.

Rabbi Hirsch, Chaplain.

April 10, 1909, Home of Mr. John J. Glessner. Attendance, 63 members.

Annual closed meeting. General discussion.







The fellowship cup, presented by the Cincinnati Commercial Club, is about fourteen inches high and bears this inscription :

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE VISIT OF THE  
COMMERCIAL CLUBS OF BOSTON, CHICAGO  
AND ST. LOUIS, TO THE COMMERCIAL CLUB  
OF CINCINNATI, MAY 27, 1897.



## MEMBERSHIP



# MEMBERSHIP

## *Active Members*

- 1899 Arthur T. Aldis,  
Real Estate.
- 1901 J. Ogden Armour,  
President Armour & Co.
- 1899 Frank H. Armstrong,  
Secretary Reid, Murdoch & Co.
- 1889 Edward E. Ayer,  
Vice-President Ayer & Lord Tie Co.
- 1899 Alfred L. Baker,  
Alfred L. Baker & Co.
- 1898 Edgar A. Bancroft,  
General Counsel and Director International Harvester Co.
- 1882 Adolphus C. Bartlett,  
President Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co.
- 1898 Enos M. Barton,  
Chairman Board of Directors Western Electric Co.
- 1896 Nelson P. Bigelow,  
President Bigelow Bros. & Walker Co.
- 1899 W. Vernon Booth,  
1315 Monadnock Block.
- 1898 Joseph T. Bowen,  
531 Rookery Building.
- 1881 J. Harley Bradley,  
President David Bradley Mfg. Co.
- 1901 William L. Brown,  
President Pickands, Brown & Co.
- 1896 Clarence Buckingham,  
653 Rookery Building.
- 1902 Eugene J. Buffington,  
President Illinois Steel Co.
- 1900 Daniel H. Burnham,  
Architect.
- 1896 Edward B. Butler,  
President Butler Brothers.
- 1896 Benjamin Carpenter,  
Geo. B. Carpenter & Co.



## *Active Members*

— *Continued*

- 1906 Clyde M. Carr,  
Vice-President Joseph T. Ryerson & Son.
- 1904 Edward F. Carry,  
First Vice-President and General Manager American Car  
& Foundry Co.
- 1894 William J. Chalmers,  
President Commercial National Safe Deposit Co.
- 1877 John M. Clark,  
Grey, Clark & Engle.
- 1901 William E. Clow,  
President James B. Clow & Sons.
- 1901 Charles H. Conover,  
Vice-President Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co.
- 1896 Charles R. Corwith,  
Real Estate.
- 1898 Alfred Cowles,  
President Rialto Co.
- 1899 Rensselaer W. Cox,  
President Pioneer Cooperage Co.
- 1902 Charles R. Crane,  
First Vice-President Crane Co.
- 1904 J. J. Dau,  
Vice-President Reid, Murdoch & Co.
- 1902 Charles G. Dawes,  
President Central Trust Company of Illinois.
- 1902 Frederic A. Delano,  
President Wabash Railroad Co.
- 1902 Thomas E. Donnelley,  
President R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co.
- 1897 Albert J. Earling,  
President C. M. & St. P. Railway.
- 1898 Bernard A. Eckhart,  
President B. A. Eckhart Milling Co.
- 1902 Francis C. Farwell,  
Secretary John V. Farwell Co.
- 1900 Granger Farwell,  
President Farwell Trust Co.
- 1896 John V. Farwell,  
Treasurer John V. Farwell Co.

## *Active Members*

— *Continued*

- 1906 Samuel M. Felton,  
President Chicago Great Western R. R. Co.
- 1899 Louis A. Ferguson,  
Second Vice-President Commonwealth Edison Co.
- 1906 Stanley Field,  
Vice-President Marshall Field & Co.
- 1896 Edwin G. Foreman,  
President Foreman Brothers Banking Co.
- 1902 David R. Forgan,  
President National City Bank of Chicago.
- 1902 James B. Forgan,  
President First National Bank of Chicago.
- 1877 William A. Fuller,  
135 Adams Street.
- 1884 John J. Glessner,  
International Harvester Co.
- 1897 Ernest A. Hamill,  
President Corn Exchange National Bank.
- 1902 James T. Harahan,  
President Illinois Central Railroad Co.
- 1889 Franklin H. Head,  
Manufacturer and Banker.
- 1884 James L. Houghteling,  
Peabody, Houghteling & Co.
- 1878 Marvin Hughitt,  
President C. & N. W. Ry. Co.
- 1900 Charles H. Hulburd,  
President Elgin National Watch Co.
- 1882 Charles L. Hutchinson,  
Vice-President Corn Exchange National Bank.
- 1899 Samuel Insull,  
President Commonwealth Edison Co.
- 1898 David B. Jones,  
President Mineral Point Zinc Co.
- 1901 Frank H. Jones,  
Secretary American Trust and Savings Bank.

*Active Members*

— *Continued*

- 1900 Chauncey Keep,  
135 Adams Street.
- 1896 Rollin A. Keyes,  
President Franklin MacVeagh & Co.
- 1899 Victor F. Lawson,  
The Chicago Daily News Co.
- 1898 Thies J. Lefens,  
Real Estate.
- 1877 Henry J. Macfarland  
President M. D. Wells Co.
- 1878 Franklin MacVeagh,  
Secretary of the Treasury.
- 1901 Clayton Mark,  
Vice-President National Malleable Castings Co.
- 1897 Hugh J. McBirney,  
Assistant Manager National Lead Co.
- 1897 A. A. McCormick,  
1411 East 51st Street.
- 1885 Cyrus H. McCormick,  
President International Harvester Co.
- 1898 Harold F. McCormick,  
Vice-President and Treasurer International Harvester Co.
- 1904 Medill McCormick,  
Vice-President The Chicago Tribune.
- 1899 Hiram R. McCullough,  
Vice-President C. & N. W. Ry. Co.
- 1896 Arthur Meeker,  
Director Armour & Co.
- 1901 George Merryweather,  
President Railway Exchange Bank.
- 1896 John J. Mitchell,  
President Illinois Trust and Savings Bank.
- 1896 John R. Morron,  
President Peter Cooper's Glue Factory.
- 1901 Joy Morton,  
Joy Morton & Co.
- 1906 Mark Morton,  
President Western Cold Storage Co.

### *Active Members*

— *Continued*

- 1901 La Verne W. Noyes,  
President Aermotor Co.
- 1904 Joseph E. Otis,  
President Western Trust and Savings Bank.
- 1878 Erskine M. Phelps,  
Phelps & Dodge.
- 1901 Allen B. Pond,  
Pond & Pond.
- 1902 Edwin A. Potter,  
President American Trust & Savings Bank.
- 1896 Alexander H. Revell,  
President Alexander H. Revell & Co.
- 1898 Edward P. Ripley,  
President A. T. & S. F. Ry. Co.
- 1903 Theodore W. Robinson,  
First Vice-President Illinois Steel Co.
- 1888 Martin A. Ryerson,  
206 La Salle Street.
- 1905 John W. Scott,  
Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co.
- 1896 Louis A. Seeberger,  
Louis A. Seeberger & Co.
- 1897 John G. Shedd,  
President Marshall Field & Co.
- 1896 Byron L. Smith,  
President The Northern Trust Co. Bank.
- 1904 Walter B. Smith,  
John H. Wrenn & Co.
- 1899 John A. Spoor,  
President Union Stock Yard and Transit Co.
- 1877 Albert A. Sprague,  
President Sprague, Warner & Co.
- 1903 Albert A. Sprague II,  
Director Sprague, Warner & Co.
- 1906 Homer A. Stillwell,  
Vice-President Butler Brothers.
- 1896 Charles L. Strobel,  
President Strobel Steel Construction Co.



### *Active Members*

— *Continued*

1900	Bernard E. Sunny,	President Chicago Telephone Co.
1901	Louis F. Swift,	President Swift & Co.
1906	Edward F. Swift,	Vice-President Swift & Co.
1902	Charles H. Thorne,	Treasurer Montgomery Ward & Co.
1904	Edward A. Turner,	1528 Monadnock Block.
1897	Emerson B. Tuttle,	Real Estate.
1899	Frederic W. Upham,	President City Fuel Co.
1897	Charles H. Wacker,	Real Estate.
1904	Arthur D. Wheeler,	Holt, Wheeler and Sidley.
1905	John E. Wilder,	Vice-President Wilder & Co.
1896	Walter H. Wilson,	Walter H. Wilson & Co.

### *Associate Members*

1899	George Everett Adams,	Lawyer.
1891	Herman H. Kohlsaas,	Record-Herald Building.
1898	Robert T. Lincoln,	President The Pullman Co.
1884	Henry H. Porter,	1730 Tribune Building.
1903	William S. Warren,	Hulburd, Warren & Chandler.

### *Non-Resident Members*

1896	Richard M. Bissell,	Hartford.
1895	Robert C. Clowry,	New York.
1905	John W. G. Cofran,	Hartford.



*Non-Resident Members*

— *Continued*

1880 A. J. Forbes-Leith,	Scotland.
1880 Lyman J. Gage,	Point Loma, Cal.
1896 Frederick Greeley,	Mackay, Idaho.
1902 John F. Harris,	New York.
1898 Charles H. Hodges,	Detroit.
1902 Edward D. Kenna,	New York.
1896 William Kent,	Kentfield, Cal.
1899 Robert Mather,	New York.
1903 Paul Morton,	New York.
1878 William Munro,	London.
1902 Charles D. Norton,	Washington, D. C.
1902 Frank B. Noyes,	Washington, D. C.
1899 James Gamble Rogers,	New York.
1896 H. Gordon Selfridge,	London.
1894 Melville E. Stone,	New York.
1890 Norman B. Ream,	New York.

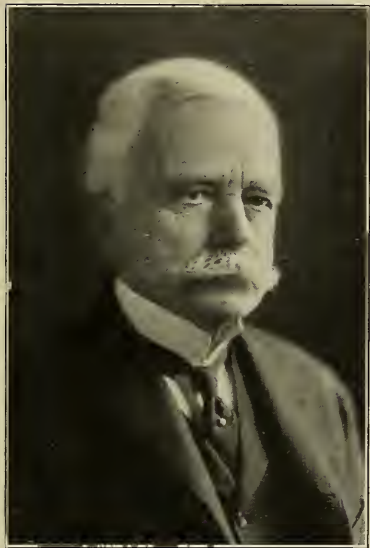
*Retired Members*

1878 Eliphalet W. Blatchford.
1878 Augustus A. Carpenter.
1879 Richard T. Crane.
1887 Harlow N. Higinbotham.
1877 Murry Nelson.
1881 William H. Rand.

### *Deceased Members*

Solomon Albert Smith,	November, 1879
Edward Swan Stickney,	March, 1880
James Monroe Walker,	January, 1881
Richard C. Meldrum,	April, 1881
George Armour,	June, 1881
John Clark Coonley,	October, 1882
Charles Palmer Kellogg,	April, 1883
Anson Stager,	March, 1885
John Wilkinson McGenniss,	May, 1885
George Clinton Clarke,	April, 1887
Martin Ryerson,	September, 1887
John Crerar,	October, 1889
William Emerson Strong,	April, 1891
Uri Balcom,	November, 1893
John Burroughs Drake,	November, 1895
Charles Mather Henderson,	January, 1896
Edson Keith,	November, 1896
James Wheeler Oakley,	January, 1897
Henry Baldwin Stone,	July, 1897
George Mortimer Pullman,	October, 1897
Louis Wampold,	February, 1898
Henry William King,	April, 1898
John DeKoven,	April, 1898
William Charles Dustin Grannis,	August, 1898

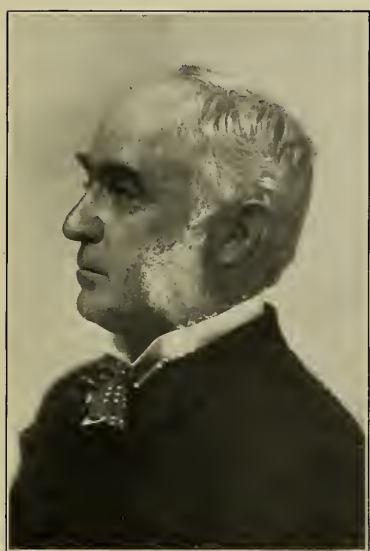
The type of men whose genius has placed the United States  
among the great commercial powers of the world.



MARSHALL FIELD



GEORGE M. PULLMAN



N. K. FAIRBANK



PHILIP D. ARMOUR



# CONSTITUTION





# THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO

## *Articles of Association*

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVANCING, by social intercourse and a free interchange of views and by co-operative effort, the public welfare and the commercial interests of the City of Chicago, The Commercial Club, organized December 27, 1877, and The Merchants Club, organized December 11, 1896, hereby unite under the name THE COMMERCIAL CLUB OF CHICAGO, and the following Articles of Association are agreed upon, to take effect on February 11, 1907.

### ARTICLE I.

#### MEMBERS

SECTION 1. The membership of The Commercial Club of Chicago shall consist of the present (January 24, 1907,) members of The Commercial Club and the present members of The Merchants Club. The present retired members of The Commercial Club and any associate members of The Merchants Club who desire to become retired members shall constitute the retired membership. There shall be no further additions thereafter to the retired membership. The present non-resident members of The Commercial Club and of the Merchants Club shall constitute the non-resident membership. The present active members of The Commercial Club and the present active and associate members of The Merchants Club shall constitute the active membership of The Commercial Club of Chicago, except that any such person shall have the privilege of immediately becoming an associate

member, subject to the conditions laid down in these Articles of Association. After the number of active members has been reduced to ninety by such transfers to the associate list or otherwise, the number of active members shall not thereafter exceed ninety, provided that, during each of the calendar years 1909, 1910 and 1911, a number of active members may be elected equal to one-half of the respective yearly decrease of the present number, but in no case shall more than three active members be elected in any one of said calendar years.

SECTION 2. No person over fifty years of age, other than the present members of The Commercial Club and the present members of The Merchants Club, shall be eligible to election to active membership, and no person except an active member shall be chosen an associate member.

SECTION 3. Any active member who has been such for ten years or who has reached the age of fifty-five years, may, at his written request, when approved by the unanimous vote of the Executive Committee, become an associate member. In computing such ten years, there shall be included all the time during which such active member has been a member either of The Commercial Club or The Merchants Club.

It shall be understood that active membership in The Commercial Club of Chicago implies readiness on the part of every active member to accept, within reasonable limitations, any assignment of work for those objects for which the Club is organized, even so far as to take the Chairmanship of an important working committee, if so requested by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4. An associate member shall have the same rights and duties as an active member (including the right to vote on the election of persons to memberships), save only that he shall not be expected to serve as an officer of the Club, and that he shall not be fined for absence from the Club meetings, except when he has notified the Secretary that he would attend a meeting. Associate members shall be eligible to the Executive Committee and to all other committees of the Club.

SECTION 5. Any active or associate member who has changed his residence and place of business from Chicago may make application to the Executive Committee, and, upon its approval, may become a non-resident member. Non-resident and retired members shall have the privilege of attending any meetings of the Club. Neither non-resident nor retired members shall be entitled to vote.

SECTION 6. In case a vacancy in the membership occurs, the Secretary shall notify the members thereof. Nominations for membership shall be made to the Executive Committee by a written recommendation, signed by any member of the Club personally acquainted with the candidate. If the Executive Committee shall unanimously approve a nomination so made, the Secretary shall, at the next meeting of the Club, orally announce to the Club that the name of the person so approved will be voted upon at the next following meeting.

It shall be proper for any member of the Club to communicate to members of the Executive Committee information touching the fitness or unfitness of any nomination to membership, which information shall be held confidential by the Committee. At the next meeting of the Club, if the Executive Committee still unanimously approve the



nomination, it shall be voted upon by secret ballot. Ballots bearing the words **ACCEPTED** or **POSTPONED** shall be used. Three ballots bearing the word "postponed" shall be sufficient to defer the admission of any candidate. At any meeting of the Executive Committee, only one candidate shall be approved by it, and at any meeting of the Club, only one candidate shall be submitted for election.

**SECTION 7.** In the admission of members, due regard shall be had, so far as practicable, to the branches of business in which candidates are engaged, so that the various commercial interests of the city shall be fairly represented in the Club.

**SECTION 8.** Annual dues of Sixty Dollars shall be paid at the beginning of each year, by each active and associate member, and no additional charge shall be made to them for the cost of dinners at regular meetings. Non-resident and retired members shall not pay dues, but shall pay an assessment of \$7.50 for each dinner of the Club which they signify to the Secretary their intention of attending. It shall be within the discretion of the Executive Committee to drop from the roll of membership of the Club, any member who has been duly notified of dues and failed to pay the same.

**SECTION 9.** Regular meetings of the Club shall take precedence of all social engagements. Every member unable to attend a regular meeting of the Club shall send a written notice to the Secretary, giving the reason for his intended absence—such notice to be mailed or sent in time to reach the Secretary by the morning of the day on which such regular meeting is held. Any member failing to comply with this rule, or whose reason for non-attendance may be unsatisfactory to the Executive Committee, shall be fined Ten Dollars. Any ac-



tive member absenting himself from three consecutive regular meetings of the Club without sending to the Secretary an explanation satisfactory to the Executive Committee, may be considered as having withdrawn from membership, and his name may be stricken from the rolls by the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE II.

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The officers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

SECTION 2. At the April meeting of the Club the officers shall be elected to serve one year, or until their successors are elected. At the first election under these Articles of Association two of the four members of the Executive Committee provided for in Section 6 of this Article II, shall be elected to serve for two years, and two to serve for one year. Thereafter two shall be elected each year to serve for two years. Until the first election is held hereunder, the officers of the Club shall be the present officers of the Commercial Club, and the Executive Committee of the Club shall consist of the present members of the Executive Committee of the Commercial Club and the present members of the Executive Committee of The Merchants Club.

SECTION 3. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4. The Secretary shall have the custody of the seal and of all the books and papers of the Club, and shall make and preserve complete records of all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee, and shall perform all such other

duties as may be required by the Club or by the Executive Committee.

In the Year-book of The Commercial Club of Chicago the Secretary shall print the list of officers, committees, and meetings of The Commercial Club and of The Merchants Club from the dates of their respective organizations, and in all publications of the Club the names of The Commercial Club and The Merchants Club shall appear as indicated in Article V hereof.

SECTION 5. The Treasurer shall receive and keep the funds of the Club, and shall disburse the same, subject to the supervision of the Executive Committee. His books shall be open at all times to the inspection of the Executive Committee, or of any person designated by it to examine the same. The Treasurer shall make a full financial report at the annual April meeting of the Club.

SECTION 6. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, the President of the Club for the preceding year, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, and four other members of the Club to be elected as hereinbefore provided. The Executive Committee shall, subject to the direction of the Club, have the general control and management of all the affairs of the Club.

SECTION 7. The Executive Committee shall have the power, by unanimous vote of the entire Committee, to discipline or expel any member of the Club, whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Club shall require such action.

SECTION 8. A Reception Committee of five members (including a Chairman), to serve one year, shall also be elected at the April meeting, in each year, after having been nominated according

to the provisions of Section 9 of this Article II. The Reception Committee shall assist in the entertainment of speakers, guests of honor, and new members, serving in a general way as hosts of the Club, subject to the direction of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 9. Subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, the President shall select a Nominating Committee, composed of five members of the Club and shall announce the same at the regular March meeting of the Club, and such Committee shall prepare a list of candidates for the various offices and elective committees. The Secretary shall mail such list to each member of the Club at least two weeks before the April meeting, at which the annual election shall be held.

In regard to the election to be held in April, 1907, the Presidents of The Commercial Club and The Merchants Club shall each appoint a nominating committee of three members of their respective Clubs to act jointly as a nominating committee, and such joint nominating committee of six shall make its report at the meeting of the Club to be held in March, 1907.

### ARTICLE III.

#### MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The Club shall hold its regular meetings monthly, commencing in November and ending in April, and on the second Saturday in each such month, except whenever the Executive Committee may think it advisable so to do they may change the date of any meeting, or omit any meeting. The place where any meeting shall be held shall be selected by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Executive Committee.



SECTION 3. Notice of all meetings, whether regular or special, shall be mailed to each member at least five days before the date of the meeting. If an election for a member is to be held at any meeting, the Secretary shall so state in the notice. At any regular or special meeting of the Club at which thirty active members are present any business of the Club may be transacted.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### GUESTS

At any meeting at which guests are permitted by the Executive Committee, any member may invite one guest, or more if permitted by the Executive Committee, but no guest shall be present on the invitation of the same member on more than two occasions during the Club year except by special invitation of the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE V.

##### SEAL

The official Seal of The Commercial Club of Chicago shall contain the following inscription:

“The Commercial Club of Chicago.  
The Commercial Club, organized 1877.  
The Merchants Club, organized 1896.  
United 1907.”

#### ARTICLE VI.

##### AMENDMENTS

These Articles may be altered or amended at any meeting, by a majority vote of the members present and entitled, under these Articles of Association, to vote, provided that the notice of such meeting shall state in what particulars it is proposed to alter or amend these Articles.





Dr. HOLMES' GREETING, BOSTON, JUNE 17, 1879.

Chicago sounds rough to the makers of verse;  
One comfort you have - Cincinnati sounds worse;  
If we only were licensed to say Chicago!  
But Worcester and Webster won't let us, you know.  
No matter, - we songsters must sing as we can;  
We can make some nice couplets with Lake Michigan,  
And what more resembles a nightingale's voice  
Than the city trimmable, sweet Illinois?

Your waters are fresh, while our harbor is salt -  
But we know you can't help it, it isn't your fault;  
But city is old, and your city is new,  
But the railroad men tell us we're greener than you.  
You have seen our gilt-dome, and no doubt you've been told  
That the orbs of the universe round it are rolled,  
But I'll own it to you - and I ought to know best -  
That this isn't quite true of all stars of the West.

— You will go to Mount Auburn — we'll show you the task —  
And can stay there — unless you prefer to come back —  
And Bunker's tall shaft you can climb if you will —  
But you'll put a paragraph praising a pile —  
You must see — but you have seen — our old Faneuil Hall —  
Our churches, our school-rooms, our sample-rooms — all —  
And perhaps, though the idiots must have their jokes,  
You have found our good people much like other folks.  
There are cities by rivers, by lakes and by seas,  
Each as full of itself as a cheese-mite of cheese —  
And a city will brag as a rooster will crow —  
Don't your cockerels at home — just a little, you know?  
But we'll crow for you now; here's a health to the boys  
And maidens and matrons of Fair Illinois  
And the rainbow of friendships that arches its span  
From the green of the sea to the blue Michigan!

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jan 24 1879.

The original writing is about one-half larger than this.

























LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 029 765 026 9